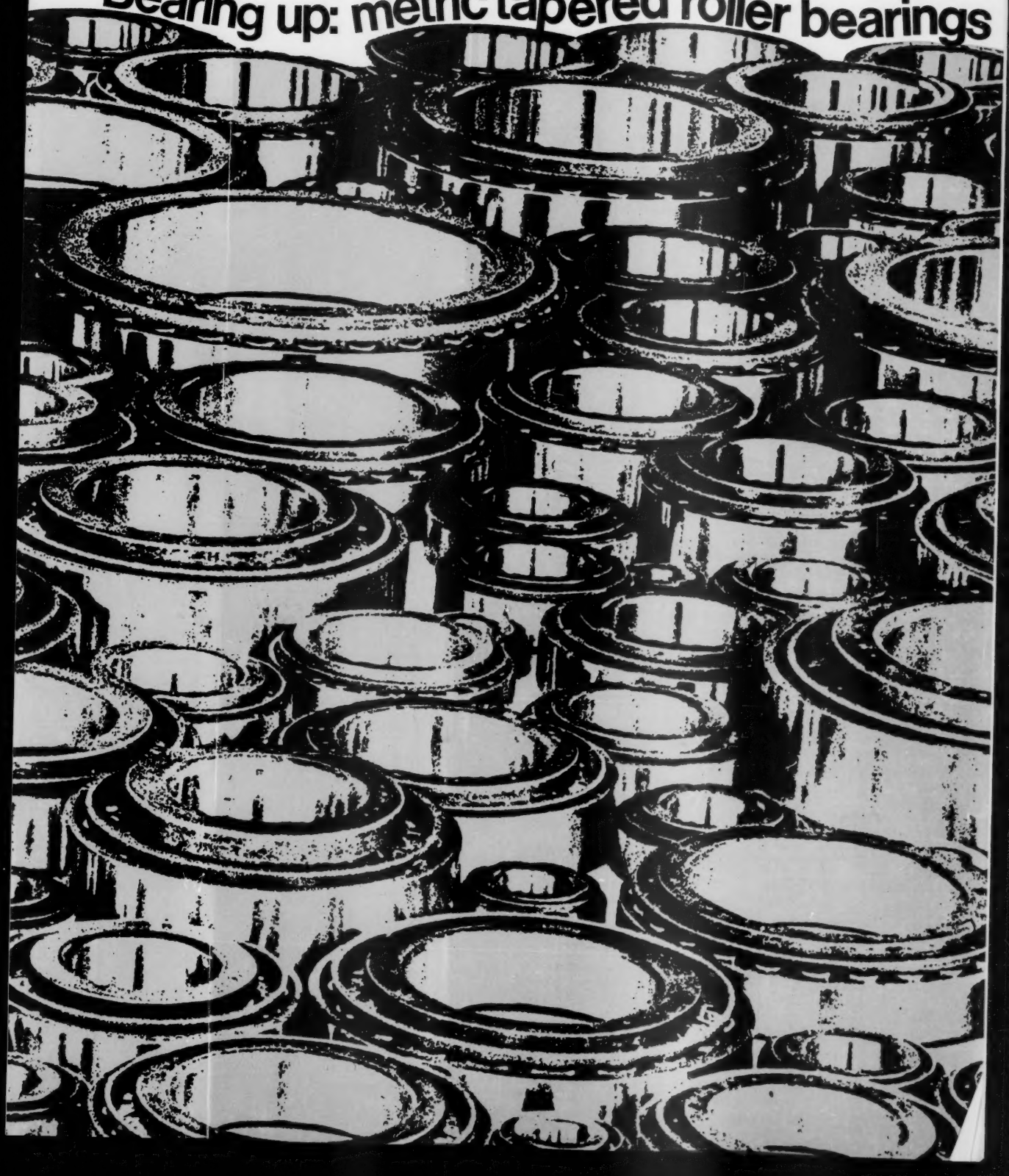
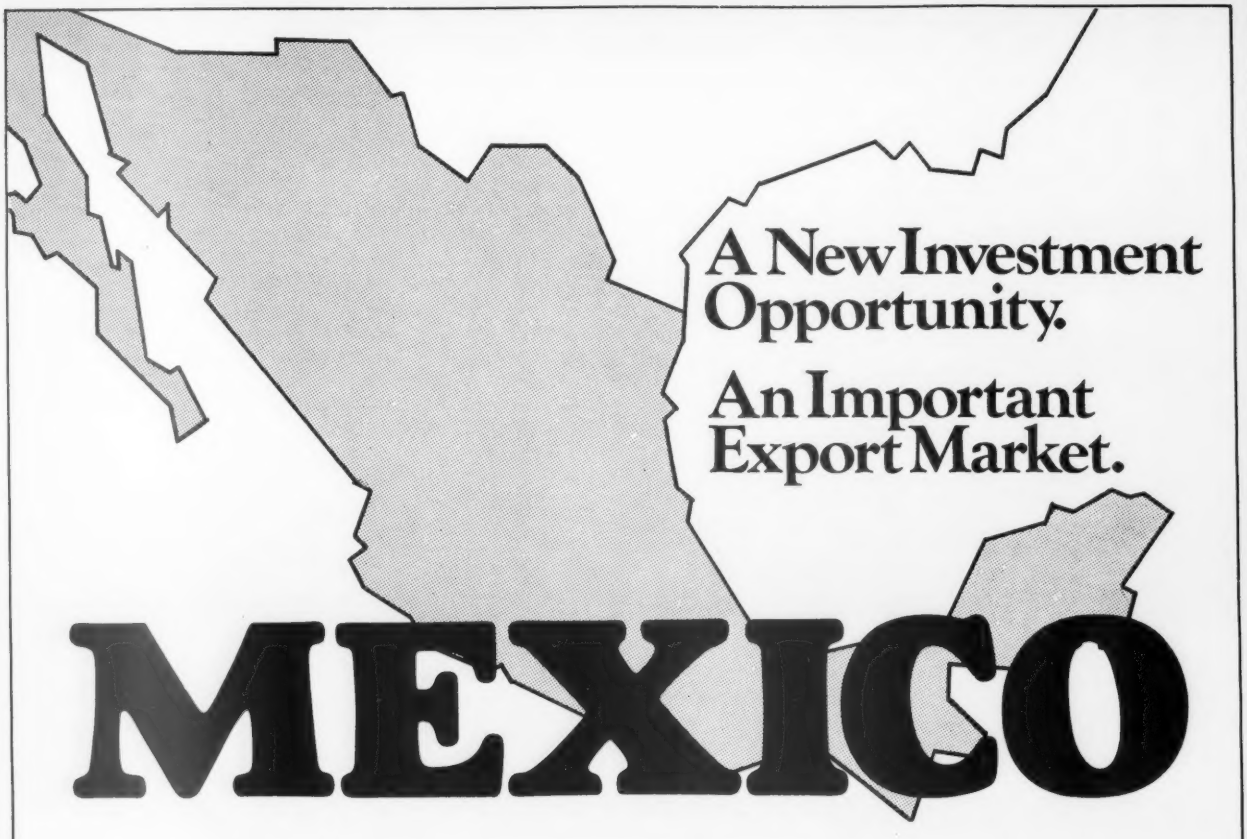
Trade and Industry

3 June 1977 35p

Bearing up: metric tapered roller bearings





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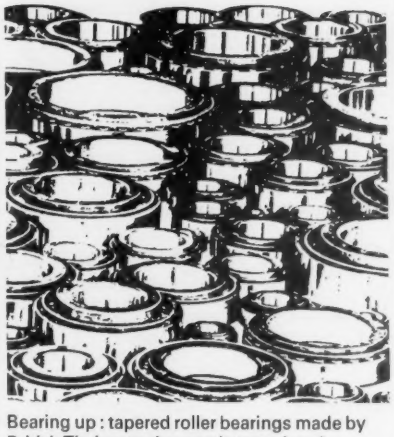
Trade and Industry

3 June 1977

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection



Bearing up: tapered roller bearings made by British Timken to the new international standard, ISO 355, the first totally metric international standard for these bearings.

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ABC

Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations

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Trade and Industry this week

HOME

New Post Office chairman

William Barlow, at present chairman and chief executive of Ransome Hoffmann Pollard Ltd, has been appointed chairman of the Post Office. The appointment, made by the Secretary of State for Industry on 31 May, takes effect on 31 October, on the retirement of Sir William Ryland.

Hotel code of booking practice

From 1 June many British hotels, motels, inns, and boarding houses, with four or more guest rooms, are offering their guests accommodation in line with a code of booking practice agreed between the hotel industry and the Department of Trade.

The main feature of the code is that hotels will give the customer a card at reception stating the total charges for the room and any meals included in the booking, taking account of VAT and any service charges.

Certain other basic particulars about the accommodation, such as whether the room has a private bathroom, will also be specified.

Further details will be published in *Trade and Industry* next week.

TECHNOLOGY

Wanted – Spacelab candidates

Qualified scientists or engineers are being sought for the European Space Agency Spacelab mission in 1980. They must hold a degree in science or engineering and have at least five years' active experience in one or more of the experimental disciplines involved with the flight and they must be capable of working in the other disciplines.

Candidates must be in excellent physical condition and be willing to participate in life science experiments during the course of the flight. They must be between 153 and 190cm tall and currently under 47 years of age.

Government authorities are approaching scientific and engineering organisations asking them to assist in finding suitably qualified volunteers. Advertisements are to be placed shortly in the national press.

An article on the Spacelab project appears on page 430.

OVERSEAS

DoT completes glass dumping probe

The Department of Trade has completed its investigation into allegations by Pilkington Brothers that eastern European imports of glass used for horticultural purposes were being sold on the UK market at dumped prices and causing material injury to the UK industry.

In the case of Romania, Poland and the USSR, varying degrees of dumping were found. However satisfactory voluntary undertakings as to future price levels have been received from the exporters concerned. The department therefore proposes to take no further action in these cases.

Imports of Czechoslovakian 'horticultural' glass were not found to be entering the UK at dumped prices.

Thousandth market research award

P. C. Henderson International Ltd, part of the Henderson Group of Romford, Essex, received a cheque for £1,283 under the British Overseas Trade Board's export marketing research scheme on Monday. The research, on the market for garage doors in France, is the thousandth project supported under the scheme and was undertaken by the European Market Research Bureau, London.

The report provides Henderson with in-depth information on the size and potential market in France for garage doors – one of the main type of doors manufactured by the Henderson Group. Like all reports sponsored under the EMR scheme, the findings are completely confidential to the firm concerned.

During 1976, 329 overseas market research projects were supported under the scheme, costing the British Overseas Trade Board well over £300,000 and involving expenditure of about another £1.5 million by the British companies commissioning the research. The 1976 total represents an increase of over 40 per cent on the number of projects assisted in 1975 and is more than double the number supported in 1974. Of the 329 projects, 308 were for individual firms and 21 were for trade associations or two or more firms participating in joint research. They covered a wide range of British capital and consumer goods.

Current work includes overseas research into markets for British cars, whisky, woollen textiles, construction projects and railway rolling stock.

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EUROPE

EEC ministers of the interior meet

EEC ministers of the interior met in London on 31 May under the chairmanship of Merlyn Rees, the Home Secretary. The meeting was the second of its kind; the first was held in Luxembourg on 29 June last year.

The meetings stem from an initiative at the meeting of the European council in Rome in December 1975 when a UK proposal was adopted that community ministers of the interior, or ministers of justice with similar responsibilities, should meet to discuss the possibilities of co-operation between the member states of the community on matters arising in their field of responsibility.

Official Receivers' offices

Official Receivers are responsible for the administration of cases in bankruptcy and compulsory liquidation. Inquiries should be addressed to the nearest Official Receiver.

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Home news

Varley gives go-ahead for new Mini

The National Enterprise Board has been authorised by the Secretary of State for Industry to allow work on the British Leyland Mini replacement programme to be resumed as soon as it is satisfied that sufficient tangible progress is being made towards measures that will put industrial relations on a new basis.

In a Commons statement on British Leyland's investment plans on 26 May, Eric Varley explained that if the company was to meet its launch date an immediate decision was required on this programme on which the company ordered a halt during the toolmakers' dispute.

Mr Varley said that on 2 March he had described three objectives towards which the National Enterprise Board considered urgent action had to be taken. The first was that there should be a quick and complete return to normal working and the second was that agreed levels of production and productivity had to be sustained. The NEB considered, he said, that in these respects progress had been satisfactory. There was a return to work on 21 March and since the beginning of April output in Leyland Cars had consistently met the level budgeted in British Leyland's plans, and in several weeks these levels had been exceeded.

The NEB's third point, he added, was that the period before the next tranche of funds was required had to be used for discussions between management, trade unions, and the workforce, which would result in tangible measures offering the prospect of a radical improvement in industrial relations in the future. These discussions were still taking place.

During March and April, Mr Varley said, British Leyland undertook a searching analysis of the courses open to it in future and the NEB reported to him on 5 May. The NEB concluded that if the conditions set out in the Ryder report could be met, it would still be in British Leyland's and the country's interests for the company to remain a producer of volume and specialist cars. The most vital of these conditions was a substantial improvement in industrial relations and productivity.

The NEB considered that, even allowing for the achievements of recent weeks, progress so far had not been encouraging. There had been real advances in productivity, but these had been short-lived. The participation machinery held out important prospects for progress, but it had not been accepted everywhere. and he urged all in British Leyland to make use of this machinery.

The NEB therefore recommended, Mr Varley continued, that a final decision on the choice of strategy should be deferred to enable it to review British Leyland's investment plans in greater detail and they would be reporting to him later in the year.

The work undertaken in the review had demonstrated to the satisfaction of the NEB that the Mini replacement programme had a vital part to play in re-establishing the company's position in cars.

Mr Varley went on to say that the Ryder Report envisaged that British Leyland would require a further tranche of £200 million from public funds in mid-1977. NEB had now advised him that it expected British Leyland's requirement in the summer to be considerably less than this, but it expected that further funds would be needed within the current financial year. If progress was sufficient to justify an approach to the house for further advances, Mr Varley would accompany the request with a report by the NEB on performance to date. The house, he said, would be right to expect this as a basis on which it could form its judgement.

Finally Mr Varley pointed out that the government remained ready to play its part in backing British Leyland. But the massive contribution required from public funds could only be justified by linking funding to performance. There was some good recent evidence, and the government would be looking for more before returning to the house.

Selective powers for new prices bill

Power to investigate and freeze specific price proposals is the central power of the Price Commission Bill, Roy Hattersley said at the Charles Barker-ABH International lunch on 25 May. It was a demonstration of the government's genuine belief that inflation would be visibly under control by the summer of 1978.

The Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection repeated that the only effective way of bringing inflation under permanent control was the creation of an economy in which the pound was stable, domestic credit expansion was limited, productivity increased, investment expanded, and production was improved. Inflation could not be abolished by act of parliament. It was the economic forces operating in 1976, not relaxations in the price code, that produced price increases over the last six months When the annual rate of inflation began to decline, as it would after the next difficult few months, the main cause of that improvement would be the economic decision taken in December last year.

None of this was an argument against statutory price control, Mr Hattersley continued. He had no doubt that in the short term statutory control could make a significant contribution to holding some prices down. He emphasised 'some' because he believed that price control operated most effectively when it was selective. When there were general rules they were rightly applied loosely. When there were specific regulations they could be applied to the companies to whom they were appropriate. Selective powers were the cornerstone of the Price Commission Bill now before parliament.

These selective powers were new and he believed more effective than any form of price control that could be run in the foreseeable future. They enabled the Price Commission to examine proposed price increases. They obliged the commission to judge the desirability of those proposals against published criteria approved by the House of Commons. They empowered the Price Commission to impose a price freeze whilst a proposed increase was examined and they allowed the secretary of state to extend the freeze for up to a year when the Price Commission reported that a higher price could not be justified. Because of its flexibility this new power could be used whether there was pay restraint or not. Since it was not dependent on the rigid application of a general rule it could take the circumstances of individual companies into account.

It was a permanent power, Mr Hattersley said. He believed that even when inflation was under control it was right that the government should be able to influence some price levels in much the way some monopolies and some proposed mergers were now controlled. He added that at the end of the Price Commission Bill's committee stage the clauses relating to this new power were in exactly the same form as they were when the bill was presented to the House of Commons.

Disciplinary code

Practical guidance on how to draw up disciplinary rules and procedures and how to operate them effectively is given in the code of practice on disciplinary practice and procedures in employment*. Prepared by the advisory, conciliation and arbitration service, the code is to come into operation on 20 June. The code recommends that:

> All employees should be given a copy of the employer's rules on disciplinary procedures. The procedures should specify which employees they cover and what disciplinary actions may be taken, and should allow matters to be dealt with quickly.
>
> Employees should be told of complaints against them and given an opportunity to state their case. They should have the

* Code of Practice 1. Disciplinary practice and procedures in employment, HMSO, price 15p.

right to be accompanied by a trade union representative or fellow employee of their choice.

Disciplinary action should not be taken until the case has been fully investigated.

Immediate superiors should not have the power to dismiss without reference to senior management, and, except for gross misconduct, no employee should be dismissed for a first breach of discipline.

Employees should be given an explanation for any penalty imposed, and they should have a right of appeal, with specified procedures to be followed.

When disciplinary action other than summary dismissal is needed, supervisors should give a formal oral warning in the case of minor offences, or a written warning in more serious cases.

The code points out that special consideration should be given to disciplinary action in exceptional cases, for example:

Special provisions may be needed for night shift workers or workers in isolated locations to whom the full procedure is not immediately available.

No disciplinary action beyond an oral warning should be taken towards a trade union official until a senior trade union representative or full-time official has been consulted.

Criminal offences outside employment should not be treated as automatic reasons for dismissal.

Legal action cannot be taken against an employer solely because he or she has not complied with one of the code's provisions. However, industrial tribunals may take into account whether or not the employer complied with the provisions of the code. Smaller establishments may not be able to adopt all the detailed provisions, but most of the features recommended could be adopted in a simple procedure.

The code will take the place of paragraphs 130 to 133 inclusive of the 1972 code of industrial relations practice.

One skill will not last a working life

'In social terms we need to ensure that every individual is offered training opportunities consistent with his or her capacities, desires and employment needs in preparation for, and throughout, their working lives.' Opening the Milton Keynes Skillcentre on 25 May, Harold Walker, Minister of State for Employment, said, 'Manpower needs are changing fast – because new technologies are replacing old ones at an increasing rate and we shall need to think in terms of more than one acquisition of skills as being the norm for the future. It will be vitally important, for both economic and social reasons, to have a flexible training system to cope with this.'

He said that under the training opportunities scheme (TOPS) many groups of people were getting the chance to make a fresh start. They included those who got little or no training or learning at school; those who felt they had made a wrong choice and saw no future in their present job; those who wanted to increase or update their skill; those who faced redundancy and those returning to the work force after a break.

Some 90,000 people had been trained under the scheme last year compared with 15,000 in 1971 under the old government vocational training scheme. Special emphasis was being placed on the training of young people. Last year over 13,000 young people who had difficulty in finding or retaining employment completed courses organised by the Training Services Agency (TSA), compared with an annual output of less than 1,000 in the years before 1975, said Mr Walker.

Less space, more storage

IBM's plant at Greenock is the site of a Conserv-a-trieve automatic materials storage and retrieval system designed, supplied and installed by the Automated Systems Division of Vickers Ltd. It offers valuable benefits in terms of halved floor area, improved capacity and increased performance. All seven work stations can be seen with control consoles grouped in pairs. The glass panels provide visibility down the seven stacker aisles.

New powers to disqualify company directors

On 1 June sections 28 and 29 of the Companies Act 1976 came into force. Section 28 gives the secretary of state power to apply to the High Court in England, or the Court of Session in Scotland, for an order disqualifying from holding directorships or being involved in the management of a company for a period of up to five years any person who has been persistently in default in delivering documents to the Registrar of Companies in accordance

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with the Companies Acts' requirements. Section 29 requires the court, on making a disqualification order, to notify particulars thereof to the secretary of state who has the duty to maintain for public inspection a register of persons who have been disqualified.

Persistent default may be proved by showing that the person against whom the order is being sought has been convicted of three or more filing defaults within any five-year period after 1 June.

The register will also give information concerning disqualification orders made under section 188 of the Companies Act 1948 and section 9 of the Insolvency Act 1976.

Section 9 of the Insolvency Act 1976, which is not in force, empowers the court to disqualify a person from taking part in the management of a company if he has been a director of two or more companies which, entirely or largely through his fault, have gone into liquidation when insolvent within five years of each other.

The register of disqualified persons will be kept at Companies House, Crown Way, Maindy, Cardiff, and copies will be available at the office of the Registrar of Companies in Edinburgh, at Companies House, 55 City Road, London EC1, and at the Bankruptcy High Court, Thomas More Building, London WC2, where it will be available for viewing with the existing register of bankrupts. The fee for inspecting the register or copies is 5p.

Bills of lading

The 1968 Brussels Protocol, which amends the International Convention for the Unification of certain Rules of Law relating to Bills of Lading 1924 (commonly known as the '1924 Hague Rules') will come into force internationally on 23 June 1977.

To enter into force the protocol needed acceptance by 10 states, five of which were major maritime countries. The United Kingdom was the eighth state to accept the protocol by ratifying it on 1 October last. With further acceptances since by France and Ecuador the criteria for the protocol's coming into effect have now been met. The other parties to the protocol are Singapore, Norway Syria, Sweden, Lebanon, Denmark and Switzerland.

The protocol revises the 1924 Hague Rules which set out the responsibilities and liabilities, rights and immunities of shippers and carriers of goods shipped under a bill of lading. Amongst the major improvements made, the Brussels Protocol raises the limit of a carrier's liability from the 1924 Hague Rules level which had become too low in post-war years. The protocol also applies a special liability limit to goods shipped in containers.

The protocol was given effect in the United Kingdom by the Carriage of Goods by Sea Act 1971. This act is not yet in force but it is proposed to bring it into operation on 23 June by an order in council. The 1971 act repeals the Carriage of Goods by Sea Act 1924 (which enacted the original Hague Rules) but the order makes transitional provisions, the effect of which will be that the 1924 act will continue to apply in relation to bills of lading issued before 23 June 1977, and to bills of lading issued on or after that date, but before 23 December 1977 pursuant to contracts entered into before 23 June 1977.

The 1924 Hague Rules are contained in the schedule to the 1924 act. The 1968 Brussels Protocol is published by HMSO as Cmnd 3743, and the Hague Rules as amended by the protocol are set out in the schedule to the 1971 act.

Safe manning of ships

Guidelines as to the minimum safe level of deck manning for British merchant ships are being issued by the Department of Trade, announced Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, in parliament. Both sides of the industry have agreed on a statement of principles and the department is offering an entirely new service to industry, whereby at the request of owners, it will issue safe deck manning certificates to individual ships, stating the minimum deck crew which, in the opinion of the department, is required for safety purposes.

At the request of owners and on payment of a fee, 'safe deck manning certificates' will be issued for individual ships stating the number of deck officers and deck ratings and their respective categories, which ships should carry in order to be safely manned. These certificates are expected to be displayed on the ships where they may be seen by the crew, or any other persons having a legitimate interest in the manning. The scheme will apply only to sea-going ships registered in the United Kingdom and will cover both the home trade and foreign-going ships.

The certificates may be obtained by application on a form which is obtainable from any of the department's marine survey offices or mercantile marine offices.

Extra effort on alternative sources

Expenditure on R and D into alternative sources of energy is expected to increase during the current and forthcoming years by 65 per cent for solar energy, 30 per cent for wave power and 25 per cent for geothermal energy. This is within the main programme of the Department of Energy, Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, announced in parliament. One of the objects of the present stage of the R and D programme is to get the data which will make possible a meaningful assessment of the chances of commercial success in each activity.

Controlling energy waste

Fitting the right kind of controls on heating and air-conditioning equipment can cut energy waste by up to 50 per cent, according to 'Controls and Energy Savings', a booklet published by the Department of Energy. It says that automatic controls, such as timers, light sensors or thermostats are preferable to manually-operated switches and that in heating systems it is the direct acting thermostat, affected by the temperature of the room it is serving, which is most effective in reducing energy use. The booklet points out that a one degree centigrade reduction in temperature levels saves 6 per cent of heating costs. It explains different types of controls based on open or closed control loops, and the importance of the proper combination of several control loops in providing a system that will operate smoothly without great changes.

Distribution Statistics Advisory Committee

Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, has appointed the following to serve as members of the Distribution Statistics Advisory Committee until 31 December 1979:

L. S. Berman, CB (chairman), Director of Statistics for the Department of Trade.

S. H. Ainsworth, Co-operative Union Ltd, Manchester.

A. F. Alexander, MBE, FCIS, FCCA, Scottish Grocers' Federation, Edinburgh.

R. Ash, Business Statistics Office.

Miss S. P. Carter, Central Statistical Office.

K. P. A'Court, Imperial Tobacco Ltd, Bristol.

H. G. Daniels, JP, Alfred Simmons and Co, Redhill, Surrey.

Lady Hall, Somerville College, Oxford.

S. Lorton, Express Dairy Co Ltd, South Ruislip, London.

B. Lyons, CBE, JP, DL, United Drapery Stores Group Ltd, London.

J. Phillips, Union of Shop Distributive and Allied Workers, Manchester.

P. H. Richardson, Department of Trade.

J. N. Rowse, F. H. Rowse Ltd, West Ealing.

P. E. Shields, OBE, Dick and Goldschmidt Ltd, London.

J. M. Simmonds, Business Statistics Office.

D. W. Sizer, Colour Cameras Ltd, East Grinstead, Sussex.

J. de Somogyi, Marks and Spencer Ltd, London.

R. Temple, Tesco Stores (Holdings) Ltd, Waltham Cross, Herts.

Miss R. Weatherall, Consumers' Association.

Miss J. Willson, Greater London Council.

The committee will be responsible for advising the department on statistical inquiries addressed to the distributive trades conducted by the Business Statistics Office.

Clearance of merger proposals

Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has decided, on the information at present before him, not to

refer the following proposed mergers to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973:
Armour and Co and Deltec Foods Ltd
Doverstrand Ltd and The chemicals latex business of Borg Warner UK Ltd.
B. Elliott and Co Ltd and The Newall Machine Tool Co Ltd
Cable Trust Ltd and Globe Investment Trust Ltd
Johnson and Firth Brown Ltd and The British Rollmakers Corporation Ltd

More tourism in the development areas

Three parts of England are being considered as pilot areas in a government-backed plan to establish new tourist growth points and to realise the tourism potential of 'fragile districts' in the development areas. Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, has named the districts as the High Pennines from Teesside to the South Tyne Valley; Scarborough; and the area from Bude to Wadebridge.

In his announcement Mr Dell emphasised the need for community consultation and co-operation and said that extensive parts of these areas were not industrialised and had great scenic and recreational possibilities which had so far been only partially realised. These could not be neglected if the UK was to build on the success of its tourism market. With careful handling, a much needed source of new prosperity could be introduced without environmental harm. The tourist boards should now take the initiative in offering help and encouragement, Mr Dell said.

It is intended that the investment in these schemes will come from the English Tourist Board and other interests, and will total £2.5 to £3 million spread over three to four years in each of the three districts. Government approval for the English Tourist Board's contributions to the total investment will depend on there being good prospects for each of the schemes as a whole, including financial participation by other interests and co-operation by the local community.

Full discussions about the schemes in each of the districts concerned will be initiated shortly in visits to the areas concerned by Michael Meacher, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade with special responsibility for tourism, and Sir Mark Henig, chairman of the English Tourist Board.

Land-use identified

National land use planning guidelines which have been issued to Scottish planning authorities by Bruce Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland, identify important land resources where development is likely to raise national issues. In particular advice is given on petrochemical developments, large industrial sites, and rural conservation including agriculture; forestry; nature conservation; recreation and landscape.

In addition the guidelines outline the policies and attitudes which the secretary of state invites local authorities to adopt in preparing development plans and considering individual planning applications, and follow on from the 1974 issue of the coastal planning guidelines, which offered suggestions on coastal areas which were suitable or unsuitable for oil-related development. The circular accompanying the guidelines makes it clear that development and planning proposals likely to raise a national issue should be notified to the secretary of state, but that other development proposals will be for local authorities to decide for themselves.

Thus, although the secretary of state will no longer be faced with so many decisions on regional or local planning applications, he will still be under an obligation – as planning minister – to offer guidance to local authorities on how they exercise their duties and responsibilities. The guidelines form part of this guidance and they are also part of the continuing policy of disengagement by central government from local planning matters where no national issues are at stake.

The new guidelines deal with the need to provide a few large sites for really major industrial developments – vital in the current economic situation. It is pointed out that this need has to be balanced by the need to conserve good quality agricultural land, and to safeguard the interests of nature conservation.

National land use planning guidelines are available from Scottish Development Department, Room 6/98, New St Andrew's House, Edinburgh.

Government sales

Ministry of Defence

Sales by auction

15 June 1977—Miscellaneous stores

Location
The Bristol Esso Hotel, Filton Road, Hambrook, Bristol

Auctioneers
Russell Baldwin and Bright (Dept L), 19/21 King Street, Hereford HR4 9DB (tel. 0432 55441)

Stores lying at Hereford, Aston Down and other depots including vehicles, machine tools, jacks, tyres, jerricans, aircraft, MT, electronic and electrical spares, bunk beds and other furniture, carpets, blankets and other clothing and textiles, and a large collection of other miscellaneous stores.

21, 22 and 23 June 1977—Vehicles, earthmoving and lifting equipment

Location
Ordnance Storage and Disposal Depot RAOC, Ruddington, Notts

Auctioneers
Walker Walton and Hanson (Dept L), Byard Lane, Bridlesmith Gate, Nottingham NG1 2GL (tel. 0602 54272)

Three hundred and fifty commercial vehicles including heavy duty trucks and tractors by AEC, Leyland and Scammell, Alvis and Thornycroft fire tenders, 110 trailers, refuellers, Bedford RL and TK trucks and tractor units, forklift trucks, mobile cranes, wheeled loading shovels and Caterpillar D4C and D4D tractors. Four hundred saloons, limousines, estate cars, minibuses and light vans (including 210 Morris mini and Minor 1000 saloon and travellers), coaches, 180 Land-Rovers and various plant spares. The majority will be offered as single items.

Catalogues which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc, are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 20p, postage and packing 10p extra (postal orders only).

Wembley Auction Sales 1977

14 June 1977

View Days:	Day preceding and morning of sale
Location:	Department of the Environment Property Services Agency Supplies Store India Pavilion Exhibition Grounds Wembley, Middx. Tel. 01-903 2508
Description of Goods:	Office and Miscellaneous Furniture Engineering, Electrical, Canteen, Domestic and Other Equipment
Auctioneers:	Messrs. Fuller, Horsey, Sons and Cassell 52 Bow Lane London EC4M 9ET Tel. 01-248 7954
Catalogue:	Direct from the auctioneer price 10p each

Potential buyers are advised to refer to the official catalogue available direct from the auctioneers price 10p.

ENCIRCLE TI 506 ON PAGE 475 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

New jobs for Wales

Advance factories in Pwllheli and Bridgend which are expected to provide more than 45 new jobs over the next few years have been allocated by John Morris, Secretary of State for Wales.

A 5,000 sq ft Welsh Development Agency advance factory at Pwllheli has been allocated to Gwalia Bakery, Llithfean. In addition to its present range of bread products, Gwalia intends increasing its range to pies, cakes and confectionery. As a result of its envisaged expansion, the proprietors hope to employ 25 by the end of the second year and more than 30 by the end of the third.

Another 3,500 sq ft advance factory on the Bridgend industrial estate has been allocated to Erection and Fabrication Services of Bridgend. The company fabricates items such as scrap-processing machines, metal balers, shearers, hoppers, conveyors, bunkers and steelwork of buildings. As a result of the move, it expects to increase its work force from 25 to 50 over the next three years.

Advance factory at Goldthorpe started

The English Industrial Estates Corporation has announced that work will shortly to commence on the construction of two advance factories, each of 1,350m² (15,000 sq ft), for the Department of Industry on the Goldthorpe industrial estate, near Barnsley, south Yorkshire. A contract worth about £219,000 which includes site development works, has been awarded to F. P. A. Finnegan Ltd of Sheffield. Work is expected to start about the middle of June and the premises should be ready for occupation by the end of the year.

Inquiries regarding purchase or lease to: Regional Director, Department of Industry, Yorkshire and Humberside Region, Priestley House, Park Row, Leeds, tel. Leeds 443171.

Rural industry advanced

A second advance factory has been completed, leased and officially opened at Church Stretton. The Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (CoSIRA) has been appointed agents by the development commission for the design and construction of these advance factories with the actual building contract being placed with a local building contractor.

The factory is situated in the Railway Yard, Church Stretton, in the rural west Midlands. Construction was started in October 1976 and was completed on schedule in March 1977. It measures 5,000 sq ft, including office space and is of fairly standard design, utilising facing bricks and aluminium cladding with emphasis being placed on the design so that it blends in with the surrounding rural area.

The tenants are Gibbz Manufacturing Ltd, a firm which was formed in September 1976. The firm, which assembles louvre doors for the home improvement trade, is providing valuable employment for 24 people from the surrounding area, mainly school leavers who were faced with the daunting prospect of indefinite unemployment.

In an endeavour to benefit the rural economy and communities, with particular emphasis on rural areas suffering from problems of depopulation and intense employment difficulties within the west Midlands area, the North Hereford and South Shropshire Joint Development Committee has made recommendations for 19 advance factories to be built within the next five years. So far six have been completed, with prospective tenants at present undergoing vetting by CoSIRA.

Applications for investment grant

The Department of Industry has accepted since 1 April 1977 applications for investment grant in respect of capital expenditure incurred in the period 1 October to 31 December 1976. These applications have been payable from 1 April 1977.

The department now announces that applications in respect of the following quarter, 1 January to 31 March 1977, will be accepted from 1 July 1977 and that payment on such applications, after approval, will begin from that date.

Investment grant is payable on expenditure incurred after 26 October 1970 only where it arises under a contract entered into by that date. Applications should be made to the department on the appropriate form, accompanied by form IG/32 (or form IG/33 for ships) and relevant evidence of contract.

Closing dates

The department reminds applicants that, by virtue of the Investment Grants Termination (No. 6) Order 1976 and of the direction made under it on 9 February 1976, no investment grant will be made in respect of expenditure incurred in the period 1 October to 31 December 1975 unless application on the appropriate form and accompanied by a report by an independent accountant is made to the Department of Industry before 1 July 1977. Applicants should ensure that they have duly completed the appropriate form and forwarded it to the reporting accountant in sufficient time to enable him to examine and report on it and for the documents to be received by one of the grants offices not later than 30 June 1977.

Applications relating to expenditure incurred during the following period should be made by the date specified:

Expenditure incurred	Date before which application must be made
1 January 1976-31 March 1976	1 October 1977

By virtue of the Investment Grants Termination (No. 7) Order 1977 and the direction made under it on 7 February 1977 applications relating to expenditure incurred during the following periods should be made by the dates specified:

Expenditure incurred	Date before which application must be made
1 April 1976-30 June 1976	1 January 1978
1 July 1976-30 September 1976	1 April 1978
1 October 1976-31 December 1976	1 July 1978
1 January 1977-31 March 1977	1 October 1978

Firms contemplating applying for investment grants towards expenditure incurred on the production of prototypes must also comply with all the requirements as to the making of applications by specified terminal dates. Special considerations may affect this type of application and if firms foresee difficulty in meeting these requirements they should seek guidance from the appropriate office.

Guidance on the preparation of forms may be obtained from the appropriate office. The addresses of the offices are:

Department of Industry, Regional Development Grants Office,

Queensway House, West Precinct, Town Centre, Billingham, Cleveland TS23 2NF, tel. (0642) 553671, telex 58608.

St Peter's House, Stanley Precinct, Bootle, Merseyside L20 3LZ, tel. 051-922 4030, telex 627162.

24/26 Newport Road, Cardiff CF2 1SY, tel. (0222) 492611, telex 49538.

Magnet House, Waterloo Street, Glasgow G2 7BT, tel. 041-221 9833, telex 77611.

Forms for ships, hovercraft and computers are available from the Department of Industry, Regional Development Grants Division, Room 2722, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU, tel. 01-211 5518, telex 918829.

Patents endorsed 'licences of right'

Under section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'licences of right' on the date specified.

24 May 1977

1456443 Hitachi Ltd
Colour pick-up tubes
1456772 Hitachi Ltd
Colour pick-up tubes
1386400 David Lees Linning
Acceleration indicator for sports equipment
1435907 David Lees Linning
Acceleration indicator for sports equipment
1335501 Poclain
Improvements in or relating to grab buckets
1349351 EMI Ltd
Improvements relating to electron discharge devices having charge storage targets
1404508 Schottel-Werft Josef Becker KG
A propulsion system for propulsion and steering of a waterborne craft

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on patents form no. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage, Comptroller

New products

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

High accuracy digital voltmeter

A guaranteed accuracy better than any other 4½ digit digital voltmeter available is provided by a calibrated version of Fenlow Electronics Ltd's standard digital voltmeter, model 7000. Called the model 7000C, the instrument incorporates a standard cell which can be switched at any time to the input of the voltmeter and provides an accurate and independent check of basic information. The switch ensures that the input terminals are disconnected during the calibration period and that the cell is not connected to the normal measuring circuit. This facility, coupled with a zero test feature, assures the high level of guaranteed accuracy.

Model 7000C technical characteristics include 10 microvolt resolution, 140dB common and 80dB series mode rejection, 0.01 per cent accuracy, and four ranges bipolar from 300MV to 300 volts DC. The excellent series mode rejection characteristic is facilitated by the use of a 'strobe locking' technique, pioneered and patented by Fenlow. The standard version can be supplied in a free standing case or as a half or full rack mounting instrument. Furthermore, two 7000Cs may be mounted side by side to comprise a full 19 in rack module. Alternatively, it can also be supplied as a panel mounted instrument.

Further information: circle 391

Character display tube

English Electric Valve Co has developed a high brightness character display tube which operates on a new principle. The display can be manufactured in sizes up to about 25 in diagonal and can display special characters.

The seven-segment character display tube operates in a manner similar to a cathode ray tube. A front faceplate carries a high luminance, high-efficiency phosphor energised by a flood beam of electrons from the cathode. Placed between the cathode and the faceplate is a seven-segment mask with a lead from each of the segments brought out separately so they can be switched.

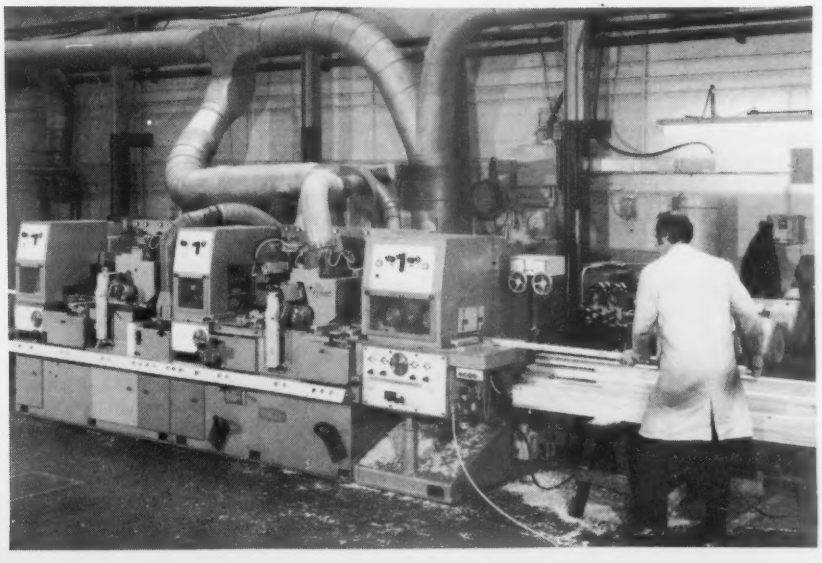
It is extremely easy to switch from one character to another at electronic speeds and with a control voltage swing of 5V at 10MΩ input resistance, only low level driving logic is required. Two standard sizes are currently being manufactured, a nominal 4 in and a nominal 8 in. The displays come in colours of green, red, blue, white and yellow.

Further information: circle 392

Push feed moulders

FBN 230 planer and moulder, the largest machine in a new generation of push feed moulders introduced by Wadkin Ltd. It incorporates completely redesigned feed works capable of feed speeds of up to 100 metres per minute. The new range of machines is aimed primarily at the sawmilling industry, but can cater for all sections of the woodworking industry. Flexibility of head arrangements enable each machine to be tailored to suit individual customer's requirements.

Further information: circle 393



Machining on target

An operator can position, then punch, drill or rivet a workpiece in the exact spot each time with the use of a fibre-optic centering device introduced by Specfield Ltd. The device transmits a small spot of light through a fine fibre-optic light guide which terminates in a slim lens tube projecting the target. This light spot is surrounded by alternating light and dark rings and is so aligned that the bullseye of the target projected onto the workpiece coincides exactly with the centre of the machine head.

Further information: circle 394

Improved air conditioning for vehicles

Kysor Industries (GB) Ltd, manufacturers of air conditioning units for commercial vehicles, has developed an improved and re-designed model of its KA-300 rooftop air conditioner. The KA-300 unit is lighter, smaller and more compact than previous models, has higher output and is easily fitted to any cab roof.

The most important new feature, though, is simpler, more-direct maintenance mainly because the two basic sections of the unit are no longer externally divided. The motor section and evaporator unit are not separately covered so all parts are easy to service, by removal of one outer case, with quick release fixings. Besides making the cabs of commercial vehicles more comfortable for long distance drivers, these units make life more pleasant for dumper truck drivers, crane operators and drivers of all types of plant in all kinds of conditions, regardless of ambient temperature, humidity or air contamination.

Further information: circle 395

Technology news

Opportunity for crew of Spacelab

The European Space Agency (ESA) has requested that each of its member states (Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK) as well as Austria, should put forward not more than five names of people who wish to fly in the first spacelab mission in 1980. These people are expected to be established scientists or engineers who have long-standing experience in one or more of the experimental disciplines involved with this flight. They must also be capable of working in the remaining disciplines. The major emphasis will be in the fields of material sciences and atmospheric physics, but experiments will also be carried out in life sciences, earth observations, astronomy, solar physics, and technology.

Later this year ESA will carry out extensive medical and pyschological testing as well as an examination of the candidates' professional suitability with a view to reducing the number of candidates to six. These six will then undergo further screening and two will be selected jointly by ESA and NASA. The final two candidates will undergo an extensive training period in Europe and in the USA between mid 1978 and 1980, the date of the first flight.

The UK government authorities are making approaches to scientific and engineering organisations, asking them to assist in finding suitably qualified volunteers to put forward to ESA.

Spacelab is a re-usable orbital laboratory which will provide facilities for conducting experiments under zero gravity conditions by scientists and engineers. The configuration for the first mission is a large module (the manned laboratory) plus a pallet (a platform open to space) for large instruments. The pressurised module will ensure a 'shirt-sleeve' environment and consists of two identical cylindrical shells (each 2.7m long and 4.1m in diameter) enclosed by two end cones; the unpressurised pallet is 2.9m long.

The pressurised module contains the basic Spacelab sub-systems (power, thermal control, data management etc) and has volume set aside for experiments. The sub-systems and experimental equipment are housed in standard laboratory type racks.

The Spacelab will be carried into orbit by NASA's space transportation system (STS or 'Shuttle') from which it cannot be separated in flight. The first mission is scheduled to last seven days. During this time the scientists will work in the laboratory, but will spend their off-duty periods in the shuttle.

The primary purpose of the first manned Spacelab mission is to verify the laboratory and its various sub systems; the secondary purpose is to demonstrate to the scientific and industrial communities the unique facilities it offers for research. The mission is planned for late 1980 and the payload for the long module-one pallet configuration has already been selected in consultation with NASA who are sharing the facility with ESA on an equal basis. The experiments are selected from life sciences, atmospheric physics, solar physics, material sciences, astronomy, earth observation, technology.

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in these sections, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

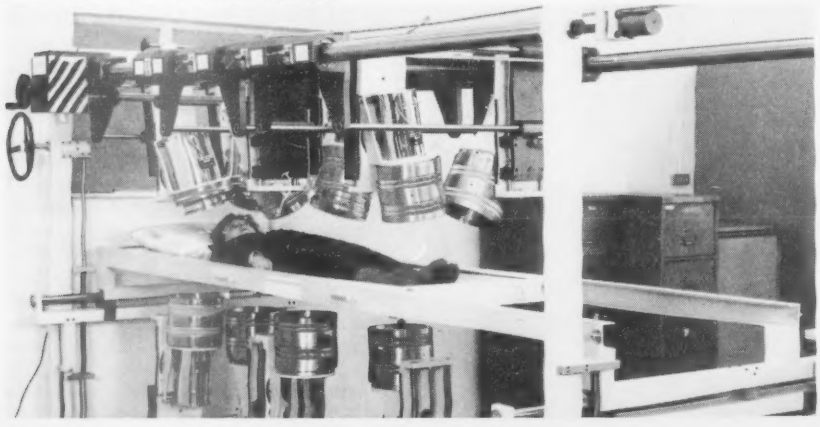
Electronics and coal co-operation

Long-term plans of the coal industry depended vitally on new technological developments, and the electronics industry had a vital role to play in this, Sir Derek Ezra, National Coal Board chairman, told members of the Electronic Engineering Association. Both industries demonstrate the need to evolve longer-term planning with consistency as the key: electronics where the development of new technology is a long-term matter, and coal, where mine construction times are also long.

It took a considerable effort to establish effective radio communication underground, an essential step to free men for a greater range of duties while yet retaining effective control of the mining operation. The next steps in mining processes promise almost limitless opportunities for technology of many kinds. Among them electronics must be foremost. The Coal Board have a long-range research group whose job is to consider new mining methods for the period around the end of the century. They have visited the leading research establishments of every kind in the country in their quest for new, useful technology.

Body monitor

J and P Engineering (Reading) Ltd has now designed and developed this whole body monitor to be installed at the British Nuclear Fuels works at Seascale, Cumberland. The whole body monitor is an ultra sensitive instrument to ensure the protection of workers from radiation hazards. The structure holds eight large scintillation detectors, four above and four below the body and each detector can be positioned precisely by a combination of linear and angular movements to obtain the best response. Two other special detectors which can detect certain types of radioactivity associated with nuclear fuel are included.



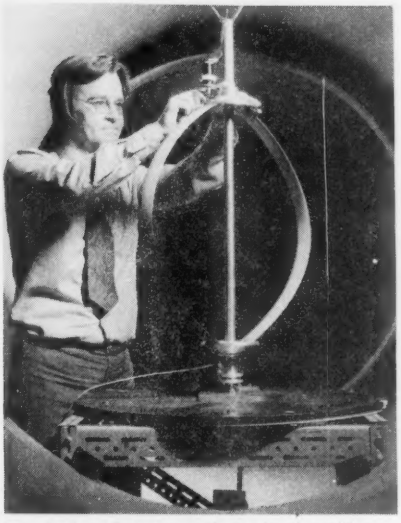
Wood preservatives

Under many conditions of use, timber of any species is liable to suffer from biological attack. Many of the commonly used woods are particularly susceptible, and the occurrence of decay or insect attack in buildings and structures necessitates expensive repairs, sometimes within the first few years of service. This wastage of valuable timber and the consequent costs of repairs and maintenance can be avoided however by correct processing of timber. Proper preservative treatment will provide long-term protection even under the most severe conditions of exposure. Successful preservation, however, depends as much on the way the preservative is applied as on the 'toxicity' of the treatment itself.

A new Building Research digest, 201, 'Wood preservatives: application methods' outlines various methods of wood preservation and their selection and lists the relevant standards and codes. Included in the digest are a number of different processes of application which vary in effectiveness and their suitability for different uses.

Further information: circle 396

Vertical windmill



The design of a comparatively simple and inexpensive type of windmill that could be produced in developing countries is being investigated in a wind tunnel at Kingston Polytechnic, Kingston upon Thames. The blades of the experimental model are made of aluminium, but could easily be of wood or other local material, and researchers estimate that a 5m diameter windmill would be able to generate 5-6kW of electricity and would rotate at 120 rpm, even in moderate conditions.

Further information: circle 397

Combating terrorism

The United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority proposes to build a fast reactor fuel fabrication plant at its Dounreay establishment, site of the 250MW prototype fast reactor and of a fuel reprocessing plant, so that the whole fuel cycle can be carried out alongside the reactor, Sir John Hill, chairman of the UKAEA, said on May 19.

'Critics of the fast reactor have pointed out that if we envisage a large world fast reactor programme described as a plutonium economy, large quantities of plutonium will have to be transported,' said Sir John. 'If the plutonium was not under armed guard it would have to be assumed that before long someone would steal some for blackmail or other terrorist purposes, or other governments might feel tempted to set up a laboratory to convert some into a weapon.

'We are proposing to demonstrate in practice over the next few years two methods of avoiding these problems. We have at Dounreay on one site the prototype fast reactor and the fuel reprocessing plant. The fuel fabrication plant is at present at Windscale and plutonium has to move between the two sites. We are proposing to build at Dounreay another fuel fabrication plant (using a new and simpler engineering) so that the entire fuel cycle can be carried out alongside the reactor. Transport of plutonium will be eliminated after the initial charge is delivered to the site.'

Sir John noted that this was the concept of the 'power park' – a nuclear power station consisting of several reactors on one site, complete with associated fuel fabrication and reprocessing plants. The chemical plants would have to be guarded to prevent theft, but the problems were not very different from giving adequate protection to any large and potentially hazardous installation.

Sir John said that the UKAEA proposed, secondly, to demonstrate the concept of a central reprocessing plant such as Windscale servicing a substantial number of reactors, widely dispersed and sited to suit the needs of the electrical supply industry. Irradiated fuel, that is, fuel that had been used in a reactor – was not a problem from the point of view of the proliferation of nuclear weapons, or terrorism, 'because although it contains plutonium it is so radioactive that the plutonium is inaccessible to anybody not having plant of the complexity, if not the size, of Windscale. Such spent fuel does not need to be guarded other than by the 80-ton shielded container used to transport it.'

Sir John continued: 'After reprocessing, the fuel would be refabricated but before dispatch to the power station the fuel would again be made radioactive to make the plutonium inaccessible again and the fuel would be returned in the same 80-ton container that was used to bring it to the reprocessing plant in the first instance.'

Feeding the arc furnace

An electronic system which will allow electric arc furnace charging baskets to be filled with scrap and fluxes, remotely and virtually automatically, has been developed by Setpoint Ltd of London.

The £16,000 system is to be installed at the Llanelli steelworks of Duport Steels Ltd. It will be linked in with a scrap transfer car and weigh hopper unit supplied by Davy United and will allow a materials operator to dial in the required amounts of different types of scrap, carbon bearing materials and lime. The quantity and code of the first demanded material are flashed up on a large display-board. When the crane driver has completed loading that particular material to the displayed weight, the system will print out the weighed quantity and type automatically and then instruct the driver by displaying the next grade and amount.

Operation of the additions of lime and carbon bearing materials is controlled by the display and print out units on the operator's console.

This latest system for Duport Steel will simplify furnace charging, and also give greater accuracy and consistency, while providing a printed record of each charging sequence.

Further information: circle 398

Burying cables under water

Vickers Offshore Developments at Barrow-in-Furness have now designed a crochet hook burial tool, a trenching device that can be used by a submersible in deep water to bury stiff cables and feederlines up to 8 inches in diameter in the seabed, or to excavate holes around buried pipes. As an alternative to direct operation by submersible, the tool may be operated by a remote controlled vehicle.

The problem was to design a tool that could be powered from the batteries of a submersible and excavate a trench in such a way that a stiff cable would sink to the bottom before the sidewalls collapsed.

Existing tools required at least 10 times the power available and development work was undertaken over a period of two years to reduce this demand. Experiments were made on how water jets cut soil to increase the efficiency of the cutting head and a water injector was also designed to operate continuously without blocking on large shells and stones.

Subsea cables and pipelines are liable to damage by anchors or trawling equipment and conventional burial methods are not always practicable. Even so, excavation for inspection and repair of damaged sections is necessary, and as satellite wells are developed around production platforms it is becoming important to protect interconnecting cables and pipelines by burial. The use of a conventional bury-barge could cause anchor damage to installations nearby. A smaller scale operation, of the submersible type, has obvious advantages.

Further information circle: 399

The crochet hook designed by Vickers Offshore Developments for burying and excavating subsea cables.

Parliament

Monday, 23 May

Financial assistance in Liverpool and Merseyside

Eric Ogden (Liverpool, West Derby) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection for a list of the financial assistance provided through his department in: 1 Liverpool District Council area, and 2 Merseyside County Council area in the financial years 1974-75, 1975-76 amd 1976-77.

Mr Fraser gave the following information:

£'000

	Merseyside County Council area*		
Form of assistance:	1974/75	1975/76	1976/77
Consumer Advice Centre grants	—	—	51
Citizens Advice Bureau development grants	26	61	71
Price survey grants	—	2	12
Total	26	63	134

£'000

	Liverpool District Council area		
Form of assistance:	1974/75	1975/76	1976/77
Consumer Advice Centre grants	—	—	—
Citizens Advice Bureau development grants	8	20	27
Price survey grants	—	—	5
Total	8	20	32

* Includes Liverpool District Council area.

Eric Ogden (Liverpool, West Derby) also asked the Secretary of State for Trade to list the financial assistance provided through his department in: 1 the Liverpool District Council area, and 2 the Merseyside County Council area, for the services for which he had responsibility, in the financial years 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77.

Mr Meacher replied that financial assistance provided from his department's vote (under the grant-in-aid to the English Tourist Board for selected tourism projects under section 4 of the Development of Tourism Act 1969, and for residual payments under the hotel development incentives scheme which closed in March 1973) had been as follows:

	Merseyside County Council area	Of which, Liverpool District Council area
Section 4		
1974-75	£45,263	£405
1975-76	£38,755	£1,195
1976-77	£41,521	£24,327

	Merseyside County Council area	Of which, Liverpool District Council area
HDIS1		
1974-75	£402,866	£345,000
1975-76	£119,598	£28,775
1976-77	£94,291	—

British Leyland

Anthony Grant (Harrow Central) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he was satisfied with the current output of BLMC car division; and if he would make a statement.

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked what progress had been made in the review study of the investment plans for British Leyland.

Kenneth Lewis (Rutland and Stamford) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what discussions he had had with the management of British Leyland on future investment plans for that company.

Mr Huckfield said that recent weekly levels of production at Leyland Cars had been most encouraging, exceeding overall budgeted levels since the group returned to normal working in March. Discussions had been held with the NEB and the company on the British Leyland review and he hoped to make a statement shortly.

Mexborough

Edwin Wainwright (Dearne Valley) asked how many new jobs had been created in the Mexborough employment exchange area over the past 12 months; what was the number of redundant jobs declared over the same period; and if he would now consider the building of another advanced factory in this district.

Mr Cryer declared that in the Mexborough 'travel to work area' regional selective assistance had been offered in the past 12 months for four projects expected to create some 190 jobs. In the same period redundancy notifications involving 420 jobs in the area had been received by the Department of Employment. Prospects for employment in Mexborough would be fully taken into account when the next advance factory programme was planned.

Financial assistance to electronics industry

Nigel Forman (Sutton, Carshalton) asked what financial assistance had been granted to firms in the electronics industry under articles 7 and 8 of the Industry Act 1972; and which firms had received such assistance, and what financial assistance had been received by the electronics industry under the accelerated projects scheme.

Mr Cryer stated that under section 7 of the 1972 Industry Act, assistance totalling nearly £41 million had been provided. Under section 8 the corresponding figure was £5 million and one offer of £250,000 had been made under the accelerated projects scheme against which no payments had yet taken place. No assistance had yet been provided under the electronic components industry scheme. But there had been an encouraging response to the scheme and some 30 applications seeking assistance of some £4 million were under consideration. There would be disproportionate cost in providing details of payments to individual firms since the act came into force but offers to individual companies under sections 7 and 8 of the act were published in *Trade and Industry* in accordance with the arrangements notified to the House on 31 July 1974.

Mill consumption of waste paper

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked for the mill consumption of waste paper in the first quarter of 1977; and whether this consumption might be met from within the United Kingdom.

Mr Cryer stated that in the first quarter of 1977 the paper and board industry had consumed 575,000 tonnes of waste paper. Nearly all of this had been met from within the United Kingdom. Net imports in this period had amounted to 32,000 tonnes. Steps were being taken to increase domestic collections to meet the industry's increased demand more fully. These included efforts by waste paper merchants and local authorities to develop joint arrangements to increase output. The Waste Management Advisory Council was to launch shortly a national campaign to encourage and advise voluntary organisations on the collection of waste paper and other materials.

Advance factory construction

Tim Sainsbury (Hove) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how many members of the staff of his department were engaged on the programme of advance factory construction.

Mr Cryer said that nine full-time and two part-time staff in London were engaged in the administration of the department's land acquisition and factory building role, much of which was currently concerned with the programme of advance factory construction. There were also a few staff in those of the department's six regional offices which include assisted areas who performed among their other duties the task of finding suitable occupants for advance factories. They also provided advice from time to time on the needs of their respective regions for further advance factory developments.

Nedo sector working parties

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked how many of the 350 recommendations for specific action produced by the first round of reports from the Nedo sector working parties had so far been translated into action; and how many had been rejected by the government.

Mr Cryer conceded that over 400 recommendations had been made in the reports, although the number of different points raised had been less than this because on some subjects several SWPs had raised broadly similar points. While many of the recommendations had been specific, others were couched in general terms or called for further study by the parties concerned. About half of the recommendations were directed at the government. Of these the government had implemented about 50 in whole or in part: in a further 50 cases action was in hand or was continuous. Some 40 recommendations were still being considered. In response to a further 20 recommendations, explanations had been given of government policy and in some cases discussions were continuing with the SWPs. Nearly 40 recommendations had been rejected: nevertheless, some of the recommendations which had been rejected had been met, at least in part, in other ways.

ECGD cover for Libya

Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler (North West Norfolk) asked what criteria were considered by ECGD in providing insurance for British contractors tendering for business in Libya; and how these compared with facilities provided by other EEC countries.

Mr Meacher pointed out that ECGD cover

Ministers

Department of Industry

Secretary of State: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Alan Williams
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Robert Cryer
Leslie Huckfield

Department of Trade

Secretary of State: Edmund Dell
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Michael Meacher
Stanley Clinton Davis

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State: Roy Hattersley
Minister of State: John Fraser
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

for exports to Libya was available against the department's normal commercial underwriting criteria, having regard to past experience and future prospects. The larger projects were considered case by case in the light of the security for payment. It was understood that other EEC credit insurers also adopted a broadly similar approach.

Cheaper exports?

Ron Thomas (Bristol North West) asked for an estimate of the proportion of British exports reduced in price consequent upon devaluation of the pound sterling; how many firms had refused to reduce their prices in foreign markets in order to increase their profits.

Mr Meacher replied that information on which to base either of these estimates was not available. However, UK export prices had risen 25 per cent over the period December 1975 to December 1976 as against a depreciation of spending of 17 per cent over the same period.

Tuesday, 24 May

Imports of non-cotton shirts

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked for the value of non-cotton shirts imported during 1974, 1975, 1976 and 1977 to date; and for their countries of origin.

Mr Meacher said a complete country analysis could only be provided at disproportionate cost. The following information showed, by value and by number, the principal countries involved in descending order of importance in year 1976:

Imports of non-cotton shirts by value £'000

	1974	1975	1976	1st qtr 1977
Total imports	27,595	33,029	39,996	12,823
of which:				
Hong Kong	15,260	18,786	25,800	7,249
South Korea	2,629	3,279	2,651	1,777
Macao	343	510	1,311	51
Singapore	103	632	988	371
Irish Republic	1,250	1,377	972	325
Taiwan	1,582	2,585	970	600
Italy	470	1,038	932	332
China	6	15	791	—
Israel	488	693	771	304
Portugal	3,698	1,804	759	290
Romania	88	229	571	117
France	329	587	503	110
Poland	81	179	417	149
US Oceania	—	2	333	57
Philippines	11	—	316	221
Other countries	1,257	1,313	1,911	870

Note: The 1976 and 1977 figures exclude certain knitted shirts made from fibres other than synthetic, but the amount is thought to be small.

Imports of non-cotton shirts by number Thousands

	1974	1975	1976	1st qtr 1977
Total imports	32,236	38,215	33,052	9,705
of which:				
Hong Kong	17,104	22,209	21,392	5,117
South Korea	3,504	4,960	2,734	1,716
Taiwan	3,739	4,468	1,181	618
Macao	325	543	1,172	42
China	3	19	938	—
Singapore	106	575	727	321
Portugal	4,627	2,076	688	222
Romania	219	302	622	101
Thailand	38	2	429	344
Irish Republic	798	628	398	106
Poland	100	183	386	116
Italy	262	823	339	143
Philippines	13	—	333	234
Israel	228	297	308	99
US Oceania	—	1	270	48
Other countries	1,170	1,129	1,135	478

Note: The 1976 and 1977 figures exclude certain knitted shirts made from fibres other than synthetic, but the number is thought to be small.

Iron and steel imports

Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked whether the introduction of surveillance licensing on iron and steel imports would cover tool steels, high speed steels and stainless steel bars; and, if not, if he would extend it to cover these categories.

Mr Meacher confirmed that the surveillance licensing arrangements announced on 17 May included bars and rods of stainless, high speed and other alloy steels which were not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded. The possibility of extending this coverage to certain other steel products where surveillance statistics might be helpful was about to be examined in conjunction with the EEC commission.

Full- and part-time appointments

Gwilym Roberts (Cannock) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection how many full- and part-time appointments, respectively, were made by him which were not subject to regulation by the Civil Service Commission; what was the total sum paid annually as salary and expenses for such appointments; and if he would take steps to reduce the number of such posts.

Mr Fraser replied that the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection had made three full-time and 1,078 part-time appointments to the various public bodies for which he was responsible. Of these, three and 101, respectively, were salaried and the annual salaries totalled £232,393. Comprehensive information on expenses was not however readily available. The number of appointments was kept under review.

He then asked the Secretary of State for Trade how many full- and part-time appointments, respectively, were made by him which were not subject to regulation by the Civil Service Commission; what was the total sum paid annually as salary and expenses for such appointments; and if he would take steps to reduce the number of such posts.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that the Secretary of State for Trade, in the various public bodies for which he was responsible, had made 17 full-time and 274 part-time appointments of which 17 and 37, respectively, were salaried. Annual salaries totalled £341,278 but comprehensive information on expenses was not readily available. The number of appointments was kept under review to ensure that it was not excessive.

Flag registrations in the North Sea

Gordon Wilson (Dundee East) asked for a list, in numbers and percentages, of the flag registrations of oil supply boats, safety and support vessels, crane barges, pipe-laying barges and drilling rigs, deployed in the Scottish jurisdiction sector of the North Sea.

Mr Clinton Davis said data immediately available, from a number of sources, was as follows:

		%
(a) Total number of standby vessels issued with current voluntary Department of Trade safety certificates operating on UK Continental Shelf on 1 May 1977.	99	(100)
of which (i) British registered	82	(83)
(ii) foreign registered	17	(17)
(b) Total number of crane and pipe-laying barges currently known to be deployed on UK Continental Shelf.	16	(100)
of which (i) British registered	2	(12)
(ii) foreign registered	14	(88)
(c) The total number of supply boats operating on the UK continental shelf was not immediately available. About 70 supply vessels were currently in the British register, of which some 50 were believed to be deployed on the UK continental shelf.		
		(%)
(d) Total number of mobile installations currently operating on the UK continental shelf under the Mineral Workings Act	25	(100)
of which (i) British registered	4	(16)
(ii) French registered	1	(4)
(iii) Liberian registered	2	(8)
(iv) Norwegian registered	6	(24)
(v) Panamanian registered	7	(28)
(vi) US registered	5	(20)

Wednesday, 25 May

Leyland and the 'Daily Mail'

Brian Sedgemore (Luton West) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would report his views on the industrial and economic damage caused to the United Kingdom and to British Leyland by the article on the company in the Daily Mail. *He also asked if he intended to refer to the Press Council the recent references made to him by the* Daily Mail *in relation to British Leyland.*

Mr Huckfield said he could not comment on matters which were or might come before the courts. Naturally he deplored any action which caused damage to UK companies or the economy. He added that the Press Council announced on 23 May that it was launching an immediate inquiry into the circumstances in which the *Daily Mail* came to publish allegations concerning the business conduct of British Leyland. In view of this the Secretary of State for Industry did not consider it necessary for him to refer the matter to the council.

Bill for oil exploration

Gordon Wilson (Dundee East) asked what was the total import bill for oil exploration and production equipment over the last 12 months on a balance of payments basis.

Mr Meacher said the total cost of imports of oil production installations and drilling rigs in the 12 months ended March was estimated to be £339 million on a balance of payments basis. A proportion of this total would be made up of goods and services previously exported from the UK. There would be other equipment imports for use in continental shelf operations but that use could not be identified at the time of importation.

UK exports to Opec

Ian Wrigglesworth (Teesside, Thornaby) asked by how much the value of UK exports to Middle East and Opec markets had increased during this decade.

Mr Meacher replied that the value of UK exports to Middle East and north African markets increased by almost six-fold between 1970 (£511 million) and 1976 (£289 million). The value of UK exports to oil-exporting countries increased by almost seven-fold during the same period 1970 (£466 million), 1976 (£3,143 million).

Japanese television manufacture

Peter Viggers (Gosport) asked what agreement or understanding was reached between the government on the one hand and: 1 Sony and 2 National Panasonic on the other hand as to the proporiton of components they would purchase from UK sources in the manufacture of television sets in the UK.

Mr Cryer replied that both these companies had undertaken to use UK components to the greatest possible extent as quickly as they could.

Knitted cotton shirts

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked what proportion of knitted cotton shirts importd in 1974, 1975 and 1976 came from EEC countries.

Mr Meacher told him 2.0 per cent, 2.7 per cent and 1.3 per cent, respectively, in terms of numbers.

British Airways and Boeing 737s

Kenneth Warren (Hastings) asked what approach had been made to the Department of Trade by British Airways for the acquisition of Boeing 737 aircraft; and if he would allow these aircraft to be imported free of duty if such a request was made.

Mr Clinton Davis said no approach had been made to his department for permission to buy Boeing 737 aircraft. After 1 July 1977, in accordance with the harmonisation of the common customs tariff within the EEC, no duty would be payable on an aircraft like the Boeing 737 which weighs over 15,000kg.

Aims of company reports

Greville Janner (Leicester West) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, whether he proposed to issue a public discussion document or a green paper concerning the aims and scope of company reports.

Mr Clinton Davis said the Secretary of State for Trade intended to publish a green paper on the future of company reports in the summer.

British economic regions

Douglas Crawford (Perth and East Perthshire) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, into how many regions, for the purpose of economic statistics, the UK was divided on 1 January 1966; what were the boundaries of these regions then; into how many regions the UK was currently divided; and what were their boundaries.

Mr Meacher said the land area of the United Kingdom was subdivided into 11 standard regions for statistical purposes: Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and eight regions of England. Definitions of the English regions, currently and on 1 January 1966 were as follows:

	Current	1 January 1966
North	Tyne and Wear, Cleveland, Cumbria, Durham, Northumberland	Cumberland, Durham, Northumberland, Westmorland, North Riding of Yorkshire
Yorkshire and Humberside	South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, Humberside, North Yorkshire	East and West Ridings of Yorkshire (including City of York), Lincolnshire (parts of Lindsey excluding Lincoln County Borough)
East Midlands	Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire Nottinghamshire	Derbyshire (except the High Peak District), Leicestershire, Lincolnshire (parts of Holland, parts of Kesteven and Lincoln CB), Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Rutland
East Anglia	Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk	Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely, Huntingdonshire, the Soke of Peterborough, Norfolk, Suffolk
South East	Greater London, Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, East Sussex, Essex, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, Oxfordshire, Surrey, West Sussex	Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Essex, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, London (Greater London Council area), Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Hampshire (including the Isle of Wight), Borough of Poole
South West	Avon, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire	Cornwall (including Isles of Scilly), Devonshire, Dorset (excluding the Borough of Poole), Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire
West Midlands	West Midlands, Hereford and Worcester, Salop, Staffordshire, Warwickshire	Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire
North West	Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Cheshire, Lancashire	Cheshire, Lancashire, High Peak District of Derbyshire

For the purpose of compiling regional accounts, profits accruing from extraction offshore of oil and natural gas were to be allocated to a separate, twelfth region called the continental shelf region (see below).

Mr Crawford asked in which economic planning region or regions the relevant ecomomic indicators of the UK's gas fields on 1 January 1976 were included.

Mr Meacher replied that in regional estimates of gross domestic product so far available, which covered periods up to and including 1974, income from employment derived from exploitation of the UK's gas fields had been allocated to regions of residence of the employees. The relatively small amounts of profits from this industry had been included with profits and surpluses of other industries in order II of the standard industrial classification (mining and quarrying) and allocated among regions in proportion to regional employment in that group of industries.

Mr Crawford also asked about the creation of a new UK region, for the purposes of economic statistics, to comprise the statistics of North Sea oil in that sector of North Sea north of 55°50', as defined in the Continental Shelf (Jurisdiction) Order 1968.

Mr Meacher answered that the new continental shelf region had been created by the Central Statistical Office for use in regional accounts. In compiling regional estimates of gross domestic product profits of the oil and gas extraction industry, derived from activities in the UK sector of the continental shelf, would be allocated to the new region. The Continental Shelf (Jurisdiction) Order 1968 defined areas of the UK continental shelf to which English, Scottish and Northern Irish civil law applied. The order had no relevance to the new region created for economic statistics.

Thursday, 26 May

Knitted cotton shirts

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked for the value and the total number of knitted cotton shirts imported in 1974, 1975, 1976 and 1977 to date; and from what countries they came.

Mr Meacher said a complete country analysis could only be provided at disproportionate cost. The following information showed by value and by number, the principal countries involved in descending order of importance in year 1976:

IMPORTS OF COTTON SHIRTS BY VALUE

£'000

	1974	1975	1976	1977 1st qtr
Total imports of which:	8,575	13,940	24,944	11,445
Hong Kong	4,092	8,175	9,335	3,611
Portugal	2,563	2,712	7,073	2,831
Macao	—	100	1,420	354
USA	28	214	1,186	119
Pakistan	349	122	684	563
Singapore	—	55	674	416
India	91	72	617	748
Romania	263	510	520	144
Taiwan	302	511	448	183
Israel	45	197	403	542
Malta	75	34	242	55
Philippines	—	—	222	186
F. R. of Germany	21	31	216	194
Other countries	746	1,207	1,904	1,499

IMPORTS OF COTTON SHIRTS BY NUMBER

Thousands

	1974	1975	1976	1977 1st qtr
Total imports of which:	16,526	18,946	27,886	12,421
Portugal	5,174	4,682	10,494	3,881
Hong Kong	6,318	9,726	6,952	2,309
Pakistan	1,668	476	1,713	1,301
Romania	1,039	1,185	1,269	335
Macao	—	140	1,235	322
India	143	138	917	1,229
Poland	622	467	716	—
USA	29	133	678	89
Singapore	—	86	586	292
Taiwan	402	680	429	183
Israel	62	88	405	412
Brazil	163	48	340	531
Malta	98	34	258	52
Other countries	808	1,063	1,894	1,485

TVs, radios, and other consumer electronics

Peter Viggers (Gosport) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would publish details of all agreements or arrangements with foreign manufacturers relating to the limitation of importation into the United Kingdom of television sets, radios and other consumer electronics goods.

Mr Meacher, replying on behalf of the Secretary of State for Trade, said the government was not party to any such agreements or arrangements. He understood that in talks with the British industry Japanese television manufacturers had forecast no increase this year in their share of our market for colour televisions, and a reduction in their market share for portable black and white sets. He also understood that manufacturers in Singapore had predicted a small reduction in their shipments of portable black and white televisions to Britain this year.

There were restrictions on imports into the UK of domestic radios, radiograms and televisions originating in the state trading area, and portable monochrome televisions originating in Taiwan. The restricted items were listed in schedule one of the open general import licence dated 9 September 1976 (as amended).

NEB guidelines

William Wilson (Coventry South East) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, if he would make a statement on the operation of paragraph 10 of the Schedule to the National Enterprise Board (Guidelines) Direction 1976 in respect of British Leyland.

Mr Varley replied that the first sentence of that paragraph, which had the force of law, said that in deciding on their practice in relation to the debts of their subsidiaries, NEB shall have regard to the practice of companies in the private sector in relation to debts of their subsidiaries. The NEB, with his approval, had informed British Leyland with regard to this provision that in their judgement a company in the private sector, whose relationship with British Leyland was the same as that of NEB, by virtue both of size of shareholding and closeness of its involvement in the affairs of British Leyland, could not allow British Leyland to be left in a position where it would not be able to meet its obligations.

Job creation prospects

Gordon Wilson (Dundee East) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, how many new jobs had been created by incoming firms per annum between the years 1973 to 1976 in the various regions of Scotland and South East England.

Mr Cryer said the following provisional figures related to new manufacturing establishments opened between 1973 and mid-1976 inclusive in the Scottish regions and in South-East England, with an origin outside Scotland and South-East England respectively.

	1973		1974		1975		1976 (Jan-Jun)		Total	
	No.		No.		No.		No.		No.	Emp.
i SCOTLAND										
Dumfries and Galloway	1		1		—		—		5	100
Borders	1		—		1		1			
Strathclyde	13		8		9		4		34	1,250
Central	—		—		—		1		13	400
Lothian	4		5		2		1			
Fife	2		3		4		—		9	150
Tayside	3		—		1		—		8	200
Grampian	1		—		1		—			
Highland	1		—		—		—			
Western Isles	—		—		1		—			
Orkney	—		—		—		—		—	—
Shetland	—		—		—		—		—	—
	No.	Emp.	No.	Emp.	No.	Emp.	No.	Emp.		
Total	26	950	17	300	19	700	7	250	69	2,150
	1973		1974		Jan 1975-Jun 1976				Total	
	No.	Emp.	No.	Emp.	No.		Emp.		No.	Emp.
ii SOUTH-EAST ENGLAND	5	250	7	250	8		450		20	950

Notes:

i This table does not include employment arising in the service sector either as a result of expenditure by the new manufacturing establishments or by those employed by them, nor that arising from the inward movement of service enterprises; nor does it include additional employment in manufacturing in existing enterprises supplying the incoming firms.

ii Some figures of employment cannot be quoted individually without a breach of confidence: they have therefore only been included (rounded individually to the nearest 50) in the two columns headed 'Total'. Hence the row and column totals for the employment figures differ.

iii One reason why the figures are provisional is that new manufacturing establishments often do not require all their workforce until a number of years after their opening.

iv In addition there is no statutory requirement for new manufacturing establishments to notify the department of their existence, or of their origin: the figures particularly for most recent years, are therefore not complete.

Industrial investment

Mr Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, how much money had been spent in the last six months in promoting: Merseyside, the north-west, the north-east, Wales and Scotland as suitable places for industrial investment, also what attempts had been made by his department to indicate facilities available on Merseyside to foreign companies looking for a United Kingdom location.

Mr Cryer replied that as part of the government's general and ongoing assisted area policy all those areas were widely promoted from government funds as suitable places for industrial investment. He regretted the information was not available in precisely the form requested but in 1975/76 (latest year for which figures were available) it was estimated that the following amounts of regional preferential expenditure, for which his department was responsible, were paid to firms in the following areas:

	£ million
Northern development area	121.2
North west region	71.3
of which	
Merseyside special development area	43.0
Yorkshire and Humberside intermediate area	23.0
Scotland	124.4
Wales	64.4

Notes:

The figures include regional development grants, regional selective financial assistance, investment grant differential, local employment act residual expenditure and expenditure on land and factories.

The figures do not include expenditure by the offices for Scotland and Wales to which certain responsibilities for regional incentives were transferred during the course of the financial year.

In addition, development corporations organised on a regional basis were grant-aided from central government funds. The three English regional development bodies would receive the following grants in the financial year 1977/78:

North of England Development Council	£250,000
North West Industrial Development Association	£135,000
Yorkshire and Humberside Development Association	£30,000

Grants paid to regional development bodies outside England were the responsibility of the Secretaries of State for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The policy of this government, as it had been of its predecessors, was to encourage direct investment into the UK on a national basis. Location was a matter for commercial judgment of the investor; incentives and facilities available to investors willing to go to assisted areas – which included Merseyside – made these areas particularly attractive.

North West Industrial Development Association – a grant-aided body – covered Merseyside area and publicised facilities available in the area through promotional literature and overseas events.

Selective investment scheme

Gordon Wilson (Dundee East) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, if he would list industries chosen for inclusion in the selective assistance scheme; and what were the amounts expended in each sector, and if there was a selective scheme for the pharmaceutical products industry; and, if so, what assistance had been given in the United Kingdom and Scotland, respectively, in terms of the scheme.

Mr Cryer replied that the selective investment scheme, which was announced on 15 December last, was open to all sectors of manufacturing industry. No assistance had yet been paid under this scheme. There was no scheme of selective assistance directed exclusively towards the pharmaceutical products industry. But companies in this sector could apply for section 8 assistance under the selective investment scheme, which was directed at manufacturing industry as a whole, and those located in the assisted areas were eligible for regional selective assistance under section 7 of the Industry Act 1972. Assistance under these two sections totalling £3,307,196 had been offered towards 27 projects in the pharmaceutical products industry. Six of these projects, which together attracted £614,400 in assistance, were located in Scotland.

British Steel borrowing

Michael Marshall (Arundel) asked the Secretary of State for Industry when he intended to lay before parliament proposals to increase British Steel Corporation's borrowing limit.

Mr Huckfield said the secretary of state expected to do so before the summer recess.

Nationalised industry accounts

Mrs Jill Knight (Birmingham, Edgbaston) asked the Secretaries of State for Industry and Trade whether private individuals might examine accounts of nationalised bodies for which they were responsible.

Mr Clinton Davis answered for the Department of Trade that the report and accounts of British Airways and the British Airports Authority, for which he was responsible, were published annually.

Mr Huckfield replied for the Department of Industry that accounts of public corporations were published and were freely available for inspection by the public. Accounts of public sector companies incorporated under the Companies Acts were lodged with the Registrar of Companies in accordance with the provisions of these acts.

Aid to Essex

Eric Moonman (Basildon) asked the Secretaries of State for Industry and Trade if they would list the financial assistance provided through their departments in Basildon District Council area, and Essex County Council area, for services for which they had responsibility, in the financial years 1975-76 and 1976-77.

Mr Meacher, for the Department of Trade, said no financial assistance was provided by his department for either area.

Mr Cryer replied, on behalf of the Department of Industry, that no assistance was made available in Basildon District Council area in either 1975/76 or 1976/77 nor in Essex County Council area in 1975/76. Financial assistance offered for projects in Essex County Council area in 1976/77 was confined to section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 and was as follows:

Scheme	£ million Assistance
Accelerated project scheme	10.992*
Sectoral industry schemes	
Ferrous foundry	0.972
Poultrymeat	0.020
Paper and board	0.175
Clothing	0.023
Total	12.182

In addition, £4.9 million of assistance was made available under this scheme towards a project involving plants situated throughout the UK, including Essex. It was not possible to identify how much of this assistance would be used in the county.

Friday, 27 May

Public appointments

Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, whether he would list all the public appointments for which he was responsible, the names of the present holders of these appointments and their salaries and allowances.

Mr Clinton Davis gave the following information. Salaried appointments to the British Airways Board, the Civil Aviation Authority and the British Airports Authority were included in the white paper entitled 'List of Members of Public Boards of a Commercial Character as at 1 April 1977' (Cmnd 6803). Other salaried appointments were as follows:

British Film Fund Agency: Chairman (part-time), Mr P. E. Heywood, £1,000; Members (part-time), Mr E. S. Jackson, £500; and Mr A. G. H. Marks, £500.

British Tourist Authority: Chairman (part-time), Sir Alexander Glen, £6,415; Members (part-time), Lord Garnock, £1,000; Mr I. Harrington, £1,000; Mr D. Macdonald, £1,000; Mr H. Marking, £1,000; and Mrs A. Munro, £1,000.

Cinematograph Films Council: Chairman (part-time), Mr W. A. Grant, £600.

English Tourist Board: Chairman (part-time), Sir Mark Henig, £6,415; Members (part-time), Mr C. Bond, £1,000; Mr D. Gladwin, £1,000; Sir Frank Price, £1,000; Mr S. Royle, £1,000; and Mrs A. Yates, £1,000.

National Film Finance Corporation: Chairman (part-time), Mr G. Williams, £3,277; Managing director, Sir John Terry, £10,830; Non-executive directors (part-time), Mr C. Dolley, £1,000; Miss F. Green, £1,000; and Lord Remnant, £1,000.

There was an annual allowance of £1,000 to cover members' expenses. Personal allowances were not normally paid to members of public boards, although travelling subsistence and reasonable hospitality expenses incurred directly on the business of the board were met.

Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection to list all the public appointments for which he was responsible, the names of the present holders of these appointments and their salaries and allowances.

Mr Fraser said the list of salaried appointments was:

Central Transport Consultative Committee: Chairman (part-time), Mr R. P. Roberts, £1,250.

Electricity Consultative Councils: Area chairmen (part-time) Eastern, Mr C. T. Muddiman, £2,100; East Midlands, Mr C. R. W. Grantham, £2,100; London, Mr D. T. King, £2,100; Merseyside and North Wales, Mr M. J. Moor, £2,100; Midlands, Mr L. V. Pike, £2,100; North Eastern, Mr J. Brocklebank, £2,100; North Western, Mr S. C. Clifford, £2,100; South Eastern, Dame Elizabeth Ackroyd, £2,100; Southern, Mr J. Peck, £2,100; South Wales, Mr A. E. Randall-Edmunds, £2,100; South Western, Mr F. A. W. Pannell, £2,100; Yorkshire, Mr D. Webster, £2,100.

Metrication Board: Chairman (part-time), Mr J. M. Wood, £4,665; Members (part-time), Mr M. A. Abrams, £750; Mr E Cust, £750; Mr D. H. Darbishire, £750; Mr D. C. Dewar, £750; Mr D. Hobman, £750; Miss D. D. Hyams, £750; Mr D. M. Landau, £750; Mr T. R. S. Lyons, £750; Prof. M. L. McGlashan, £750; Mr H. P. Scanlon, £750; Mrs A. Stanley, £750; Mrs J. Upward, £750.

Monopolies and Mergers Commission: Chairman, Mr J. G. LeQuesne, £16,580; Deputy chairmen (part-time), Mr E. L. Richards, £6,618; Sir Max Brown, £4,412; Members (part-time), Mr G. F. Ashford, £2,300; Mr R. G. Aspray, £2,300; Prof. J. Barna, £2,300; Sir Dallas Bernard, £2,300; Lady Bowden, £2,300; Mr J. S. Copp, £2,300; Hon J. D. Eccles, £2,300; Sir Roger Falk, £2,300; Mr C. J. M. Hardie, £2,300; Dr F. E. Jones, £2,300; Mr T. P. Lyons, £2,300; Mr R. L. Marshall, £2,300; Mrs V. M. Marshall, £2,300; Mrs C. M. Miles, £2,300; Mr R. G. Opie, £2,300; Mr C. T. H. Plant, £2,300; Mr S. A. Robinson, £2,300; Mr J. S. Sadler, £2,300; Miss R. Stephen, £2,300; Prof. H. Street, £2,300; Prof. B. S. Yamey, £2,300.

National Consumer Council: Chairman (part-time), Mr M. Young, £6,000; Vice chairman (part-time), Mrs J. Macintosh, £3,600; Members (part-time), Dr H. Armstrong, £750; Mr M. Barnes, £750; Mr A. Crawford, £750; Mr K. Glynn, £750; Mr C. Holmes, £750; Cllr R. Knowles, £750; Mrs P. Lambert, £750; Mrs B. Lipman, £750; Mrs D. McAuslan, £750; Lord Peddie, £750; Baroness Phillips, £750; Mr B. Sewill, £750; Mrs R. Waterhouse, £750; Mr M. Wood, £750; Mrs J. Young, £750.

National Gas Consumers' Council: Chairman (part-time), Baroness Macleod of Borve, £2,000.

Office of Fair Trading: Director general, Mr G. J. Borrie, £16,580.

Post Office Users' National Council: Chairman (part-time), Lord Peddie, £2,000.

Price Commission: Chairman, Sir Arthur Cockfield, £16,580; Deputy chairman (part-time), Prof. D. C. Hague, £6,290; Members (part-time), Miss M. E. Head, £3,432; Mr A. W. John, £3,432; Mr K. A. Noble, £3,432; Mr I. F. H. Davison, £2,574; Miss S. Black, £1,716; Mr A. W. Howitt, £1,716; Mr B. I. Petch, £1,716.

Regional Gas Consumers' Councils: Regional chairmen (part-time), Eastern, Mrs A. Williams, £1,750; East Midlands, Sir Mark Henig, £2,100; North Eastern, Prof. P. B. Fairest, £1,750; Northern, Mr J. Hudson, £2,100; North Thames, Mr C. T. Higgins, £2,100; North Western, Cllr

A. G. Read, £1,750; West Midlands, Mr R. D. Hoskin, £1,750; Scottish, Mrs J. Buchan, £1,750; South Eastern, Cllr Mrs M. R. Grimes, £1,750; Southern, Mrs K. E. Lambert, £1,750; South Western, Sir Peter Hellings, £1,750; Wales, Miss M. Roach, £1,750.

Scottish Consumer Council: Chairman (part-time), Mrs J. Macintosh, £500.

Transport Users' Consultative Committees: Area chairmen (part-time), East Anglia, Mr L. A. Carey, £1,000; East Midlands, Mr S. A. Campbell, £1,000; London, Mr G. H. Harris, £1,000; North Eastern, Mr W. V. Golding, £1,000; North Western, Mr A. N. Hunt, £1,000; Scotland, Mr T. F. Carbery, £1,000; South Eastern, Prof. D. Wiggins, £1,000; South Western Dr M. D. D. Newitt, £1,000; Wales, Mr C. L. Ricketts, £1,000; West Midlands, Mr L. V. Pike, £1,000; Yorkshire, Mr W. J. Price, £1,000.

Welsh Consumer Council: Chairman (part-time), Mrs B. Lipman, £500.

Personal allowances were not normally paid to members of public boards, although travelling, subsistence and reasonable hospitality expenses incurred directly on the business of the board were met.

Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, whether he would list all the public appointments for which he was responsible, the names of the present holders of these appointments and their salaries and allowances.

Gwilym Roberts (Cannock): asked the Secretary of State for Industry, how many full and part-time appointments, respectively, were made by him which were not subject to regulation by the Civil Service Commission; what was the total sum paid annually as salary and expenses for such appointments; and if he would take steps to reduce the number of such posts.

Mr Kaufman gave the following information.

Salaried appointments to the British Steel Corporation, the Post Office, Cable and Wireless Ltd, the National Enterprise Board and British Aerospace were included in the white paper entitled 'List of Members of Public Boards of a Commercial Character' as at 1 April 1977 (Cmnd. 6803). Other salaried appointments were as follows:

English Industrial Estates Corporation: Chairman (part-time), Sir Horace Heyman, £4,432; Members (part-time), Mr K. J. Alford, £700; Mr J. Eccles, £700; Mr J. Harle, £700; and Mr J. S. Heaton, £700.

Furniture Development Council: Chairman (part-time), Sir Roger Falk, £250.

National Computing Centre Ltd: Chairman (part-time), Prof. J. H. H. Merriman £1,000; Deputy chairman (part-time), Mr F. Mitchell, £750; Director, Mr D. Firnberg, £9,700; Members (part-time), Mr A. St Johnston, £675; and Mr W. H. Lake, £500.

National Research Development Corporation: Chairman (part-time), Lord Schon, £2,000*; Managing director, Mr W. Makinson, £12,829. Members (part-time), Mr. J. Gormley, £1,000†; Mr C. Jenkins, £1,000; Prof. A. W. Johnson, £1,000; Mr F. J. M. Laver, £1,000; Sir Peter Matthews, £1,000; Prof. L. Maunder, £1,000; Mr L. V. D. Tindale, £1,000; and Mr F. A. S. Wood, £1,000.

Annual salaries, including those paid to members of boards of the British Steel Corporation, the Post Office, Cable and Wireless Ltd, the National Enterprise Board and British Aerospace, including appointments since 1 April 1977, totalled £592,898. In addition, the Secretary of State for Industry was responsible for 400 part-time appointments none of which were salaried.

Personal allowances were not normally paid to members of public boards, although travelling, subsistence and reasonable hospitality expenses incurred directly on the business of the board were met. Comprehensive information on expenses was not readily available. The appointments were kept under review to ensure that neither the cost nor the number was excessive.

* Draws £1,000 only. † Salary voluntarily not drawn.

Prosecutions by the insolvency service

Norman Miscampbell (Blackpool North) asked for the number of prosecutions instigated by the insolvency service in each of the last five years.

Mr Meacher said that prosecutions for offences contrary to the companies acts, bankruptcy acts, other statutes and common law, arising wholly or partially out of investigations by the insolvency service, were undertaken by the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Department of Trade and police authorities. Of such prosecutions, those undertaken by the Department of Trade under the bankruptcy acts and companies acts in respect of bankruptcies and liquidations during the relevant years were as follows:

	Bankruptcies	Liquidations	Total
1972	155	42	197
1973	174	38	213
1974	211	30	241
1975	181	53	234
1976	161	62	223

Insolvency service staff

Norman Miscampbell (Blackpool North) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, if he was satisfied that the number of staff in the Insolvency Service was adequate.

Mr Clinton Davis said he was aware of demands placed upon the staff of the insolvency service by the large numbers of bankruptcy and winding up cases over the past two or three years. Additional staff resources had been made available and increases in monetary limits under section 1 of the Involvency Act 1976 should help reduce the work load. The effect of these and other measures on the adequacy of staff numbers was currently being considered in a staffing review of the whole insolvency service.

Cordage, cable, rope and twine

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked the tonnes and value of cordage, cable, rope and twine, imported during 1974, 1975, 1976 and 1977 to date.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

	Textile cordage, cable, rope and twine		Metal cordage, cable and rope	
	Thousand metric tons	£ million cif	Thousand metric tons	£ million cif
1974	11.5	7.2	12.9	9.2
1975	8.6	5.3	14.2	13.0
1976	13.4	6.0	12.7	12.4
1977 (Jan-Apr)	7.8	3.5	5.1	5.8

These figures were published in the 1974 annual statement of overseas trade and appropriate issues of the *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom.*

Trade with Poland

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked about trade with Poland during 1976.

Mr Meacher stated that imports had been valued at £154 million cif and exports £189 million fob. These figures were published in the December 1976 issue of the *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom.*

Imports from East Germany

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked for the total value of imports from East Germany in 1975 and 1976.

Mr Meacher said that imports in 1975 and 1976 had been valued at £39 million and £60 million cif respectively. These figures were published in *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom,* which were available in the House of Commons Library.

Civil aviation security measures

Neville Sandelson (Hillingdon, Hayes and Harlington) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, if he would make a statement following his consultations with the civilian avaition industry, on the implementation of the government's decision to transfer the cost of civil aviation security measures from the taxpayer to the industry from 1 April 1978.

Mr Clinton Davis said that he had decided that there should be a special fund out of which he could reimburse security costs under the Protection of Aircraft Act 1973 and the Policing of Airports Act 1974, and from which his department could recover its related administration costs. The fund would be financed by a levy made on 28 airports by the secretary of state. Initially the levy was expected to be at a rate of 80p per arriving passenger, and the airport authorities would be responsible for paying it monthly to the secretary of state for the fund. The 28 airports were those which had a public licence from, or were owned by, the Civil Aviation Authority, and which had more than 50,000 passengers in the latest year for which statistics were available. It was envisaged that the rate of the levy would be varied each year beginning 1 April, and the Department of Trade would announce the level of the charge and any changes in the list of airports in the previous September. The necessary legislative provision would be included in a bill to be introduced as soon as the parliamentary situation permitted.

Airport security agencies

Neville Sandelson (Hillingdon, Hayes and Harlington) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, whether he would take steps to phase out the use of private security agencies for passenger searching at United Kingdom airports.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that passenger searching at Luton airport has been carried out by airport authority staff since this security measure became necessary. At Newcastle airport a certain amount of passenger searching was carried out by airport authority staff. On 1 January 1977 Manchester International Airport Authority staff assumed responsibility for all passenger searching at Manchester airport. His officials had had discussions with the British Airports Authority which led to proposals by the authority that it should assume similar responsibilities for passenger searching at its seven airports. He asked the British Airports Authority to proceed with arrangements which it had proposed gradually to phase out the use of private security agencies for passenger searching at BAA airports. That would naturally take some time but he hoped that the change-over could be completed during 1978.

Inflation accounting

John Wakeham (Maldon) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, whether any members of the EEC were proposing a system of inflation accounting incompatible with likely EEC standards, and how the other members of the EEC's proposals for a system of inflation accounting compared with those of the United Kingdom; on what date they proposed to introduce it; and what systems they proposed to adopt.

Mr Clinton Davis answered that Belgian legislation of October 1976 allowed replacement cost of fixed assets and stocks to be shown in the accounts. West Germany introduced a voluntary accounting standard in October 1975, which recommended that the effect of inflation on fixed assets and stocks should be shown in a supplementary statement. Inflation accounting proposals were also under consideration in France and the Netherlands. In introducing systems of inflation accounting, member states would have to consider provisions of the draft fourth directive on company law. In its present form this directive in principle permitted introduction of such systems.

John Wakeham also asked the Secretary of State for Trade, whether, in view of the fact that Australia had had to postpone a system of CCA inflation accounting, he would draw the Morpeth Committee's attention to the reasons for the postponement. and in studying systems of inflation accounting what consideration he had given to systems in other countries.

Mr Clinton Davis said the Morpeth Committee was aware of developments in Australia and was taking these into consideration in preparing a system of current cost accounting.

He added that the Morpeth Committee had been following developments in both the United States and Canada and was taking these into consideration. It was not aware of any similar developments in Japan.

Waste paper imports

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked for the quantity and value of waste paper imports in the first three months of this year.

Mr Meacher said that 43 thousand metric tons were imported, valued at £2.7 million cif. These figures were published in the March issue of *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom.*

Parliamentary questions for Friday, 27 May will be continued in next week's issue.

European community news

UK to suspend pig subsidy next week

Britain is taking action to suspend the temporary subsidy on pig meat from Saturday 11 June, John Silkin told the Commons on 26 May.

The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food explained that the UK action followed the decision issued by the European court of justice on 21 May. The decision was made on an application by the commission to the effect that the UK should suspend the temporary pig meat subsidy forthwith pending the outcome of the substantive hearing which would decide the legality or otherwise of the UK's subsidy within the treaty of Rome.

Speaking of the serious implications of the court's decision for the future of the UK's pig meat production and processing industries, Mr Silkin said that he had pressed on commissioner Gundelach the need for immediate action to assist the pig sector. He said that he had made a formal application to the commission for urgent action using its powers under article 135 of the treaty of accession.

Officials from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food met commission officials in London on 26 May for detailed discussions about the UK application under article 135.

EEC agriculture ministers visit Britain

John Silkin (right), Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, with Finn Olav Gundelach, commissioner for agriculture, at London's Lancaster House on 24 May during the recent visit of EEC agriculture ministers to the UK.

Nine council meetings proposed for June

Heads of government of the member states will meet in London on 29 and 30 June, Frank Judd, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office told the Commons on 24 May.

Mr Judd who was making a statement about business to be taken by the council of ministers in June, said that it was too soon to forecast what subjects were likely to be discussed by heads of government.

He said that there were nine meetings of the council of ministers proposed for June starting with the meeting of energy ministers on 14 June. They were expected to discuss the general energy situation, including nuclear matters; coal, in particular import surveillance and encouragement of coal use in power stations; proposals for energy conservation; oil, including crisis measures and problems of the community refining industry and promotion and protection of community energy investment.

Environment ministers, also meeting on 14 June, would consider directives on the quality of drinking water, wastes from titanium dioxide and paper pulp industries toxic and dangerous wastes and a decision on exchange of information on the quality of surface water.

Development ministers, meeting on 16 June, would discuss EEC financial and technical aid to non-associated developing countries, food aid and a commission paper on rural development, agriculture and food production in the developing world.

Ministers at the finance council on 20 June would discuss preparations for the tripartite conference. They would also consider a draft banking co-ordination directive.

Agriculture ministers, meeting on 20 and 21 June, were expected to discuss proposals for introducing more flexibility into the calculation of monetary compensatory amounts (mcas), the labelling of milk products, and matters affecting the balance of the community wine market. They would also hold a special meeting on 27 June on the future internal fisheries policy and to decide on herring conservation measures after the end of June.

At the meeting of foreign ministers on 21 June discussion would cover preparations for the European council, relations with the council for mutual economic assistance (CMEA), Spain, Cyprus and Malta; and fisheries matters.

At the social affairs council, on 28 June, the main subjects for discussion would be the review of the European social fund, and proposed directives on the education of migrant workers' children, illegal immigration, and illegal employment and the harmonisation of safety signs at work. The council would also receive a progress report on other items in the social affairs programme.

Transport ministers, on 28 and 29 June, would discuss the social regulation on drivers hours and whole vehicle type approval. Ministers would also have a general policy discussion on transport issues.

The tripartite conference on 27 June would have as its theme growth, stability and employment: stocktaking and prospects.

Transport ministers meet in Athens

William Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport, attended the 45th session of the European conference of ministers of transport in Athens from 1 to 2 June. The secretary of state, representing the EEC council of ministers, presented to the conference a report on community transport activities during the past six months.

Among other items discussed at the conference was a report on traffic to and from the Middle East, and the problems of overland transit of freight.

The European conference of ministers of transport (ECMT) was instituted by a protocol signed in Brussels on 17 October 1953. It comprises the ministers of transport of 19 European countries as well as associated countries: Australia, Canada, Japan and, as an observer, the United States.

The purposes of the ECMT are to take whatever measures may be necessary to achieve, at general or regional level, the maximum use and most rational development of European inland transport of international importance; and to co-ordinate and promote the activities of international organisations concerned with European inland transport (rail, road, navigable ways), taking into account the work of supranational authorities in this field.

Direct elections 'communication' promised

A 'communication' on the government's proposals for direct elections to the European parliament will be made in the week beginning 13 June.

Lord President of the council and leader of the House of Commons, Michael Foot gave the information during his business statement to the House on 26 May.

New legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7174/482/408. Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following regulations and decision which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*:

Processed agricultural products. Regulation (EEC) 999/77 determining the amounts of the variable components, compensatory amounts and additional duties applicable from 1 May to 31 July 1977 inclusive, on the importation of goods covered by regulation (EEC) 1059/69 (*Official Journal* L122, 16 May 1977).

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 1018/77 amending for the second time regulation (EEC) 3148/76 on preventive distillation for the wine-growing year 1976/77 (*Official Journal* L123, 17 May 1977).

Animal health. Decision 77/358/EEC amending decision 77/268/EEC on certain measures to prevent the spread of classical swine fever (*Official Journal* L123, 17 May 1977).

Commercial policy

Processed agricultural products. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L123, 17 May 1977, contains the text of decision 77/353/EEC amending decision 77/289/EEC authorising Ireland to take protective measures in respect of certain processed agricultural products under article 135 of the act concerning the conditions of accession and the adjustments to the treaties.

Harmonisation of legislation

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L105, 28 April 1977, contains the texts of the following directives:

Agricultural or forestry tractors. Directive 77/311/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to the driver-perceived noise level of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors.

Further information: Department of Industry, Vehicle Division, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN, tel. 01-211 3601.

Measuring systems for liquids other than water. Directive 77/313/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to measuring systems for liquids other than water.

Further information: Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Weights and Measures Service, 26 Chapter Street, London SW1P 4NS, tel. 01-834 7032 ext. 138.

Radio interference. Corrigenda. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L105, 28 April 1977, contains corrections to EEC directive 76/889 on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to radio interference caused by household appliances, portable tools and similar equipment, and directive 76/890 on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to the suppression of radio interference with regard to fluorescent lighting luminaires fitted with starters, the texts of which were published in *Official Journal* L336, 4 December 1976.

These corrections affect:

Directive 76/889 – page 16, figure 3

Directive 76/890 – page 25, point 4.3, seventh line

page 26, figures 1 and 2

Copies of *Official Journal* L105 may be obtained from HMSO, price 70p plus postage.

Further information: Home Office, Radio Regulatory Department, DRT/RIB, Waterloo Bridge House, Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UA, tel. 01-275 3078/3162.

Trading with Egypt, Syria and Jordan

The EEC's interim trade agreements with Egypt, Syria and Jordan (see *Trade and Industry*, 25 February), are to enter into force on 1 July this year. The texts of the three agreements were published on 23 May in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L126.

The interim agreements consist of the trading provisions of the definitive co-operation agreements concluded with these countries, and they will remain effective only until the definitive agreements have been ratified and can enter into force.

In the same series, a fourth agreement has been negotiated with the Lebanon. Its trade provisions are similarly expected to take effect on 1 July but have not yet been published.

General inquiries to: Commercial Relations and Exports Division, Department of Trade, tel. 01-215 3472.

New EEC documents

This list of EEC documents was deposited in the House of Commons during the week ended 25 May (commision reference numbers, where appropriate, are given in parentheses): The documents are available for consultation at the European Communities Commission Information Office at 20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ.

EEC draft instruments

R/1124/77 (COM(77)174)
Proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 816/70 laying down additional provisions for the common organisation of the market in wine.

S/667/77 (COM(77)147)
Proposal for a Council Regulation on the conclusion of the Agreement on the amendment of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Austria on the application of the rules on Community transit and on the entry into force of decision No. 1/77 of the Joint Committee set up by the said Agreement.

S/678/77 (COM(77)156)
Recommendation for a Council Regulation on the conclusion of the Interim Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Lebanese Republic.

S/697/77 (COM(77)154)
Proposal for a Regulation extending the system of temporary partial suspension of the CCT duty on Turkish wine.

S/698/77 (COM(77)148)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on imports of olive oil originating in the Lebanon.

R/977/77 (COM(77)132)
Proposal for a Council Directive laying down additional provisions relating to the surveys carried out by Member States on cattle production.

R/1010/77
Proposal for an amendment of the Council Directive concerning health protection standards for sulphur dioxide and suspended particulate matter in the urban atmosphere.

S/700/77 (COM(77)149)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) concerning the allocation of a Community quota of wine of fresh grapes, intended to be fortified for distillation, originating in *Algeria* (1977/1978).

R/1103/77 (COM(77)158)
Proposal for a Council Directive on the introduction in the Community of joint stocks of crude oil and petroleum products.
Proposal for a Council Directive concerning the creation in each Member State of organisations responsible for storing crude oil and/or petroleum products and on the financing of these organisations.

R/1109/77 (COM(77)155)
Proposal for a Council Directive amending for the first time Council Directive 76/118/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to certain partly or wholly dehydrated preserved milk for human consumption.

R/1110/77 (COM(77)161)
Food aid
– 1977 skimmed-milk powder and butter oil food aid programmes.

R/1125/77 (COM(77)177)
Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 974/71 as regards the price level to be taken into consideration for the calculation of monetary compensatory amounts.

Consultative documents

R/1149/77 (COM(77)190)
Communication from the Commission to the Council concerning monetary compensatory amounts.

R/1173/77 (COM(77)164)
Communication from the Commission to the Council concerning the future fisheries policy.

R/851/77 (COM(77)95)
Preliminary draft supplementary and amending budget No. 1 for the financial year 1977.

S/540/77 (COM(77)83)
Development co-operation
– Report on relations with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) active in the field of development, with special reference to the co-financing of projects.

R/848/77
Council decision giving a discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation the budget and of the amending and supplement budgets of the European Communities for the year 1975.

R/1013/77
Declaration of the Maximum Rate of Increase of 'Non-obligatory' Expenditure relative to 1978 Community budget.

Purchasing power in the EEC

Purchasing power in each of the EEC countries is compared in an article in the May issue of the *Department of Employment Gazette*. It reports on work undertaken by the Statistical Office of the European Communities (SOEC) to calculate for consumer goods and services 'exchange rates' known as purchasing power parities which are based on the relative price levels in the EEC. It says that the results show clearly the inadequacy of simply using foreign currency exchange rates as a basis of international comparison.

The article is based on a survey carried out by SOEC in 1975, the first time that the UK took part. It says that prices in Bonn were 129 per cent of prices in London, in Paris 131, Rome 101, Amsterdam 119, Brussels 122, Luxembourg 113, Dublin 98 and Copenhagen 147.

End of transition: EEC transit documentation

Most goods traded between the UK and other member states of the community will become free of customs duties and other import and export charges from 1 July. For certain non-industrial goods the end of the transitional period for the abolition of intra-community charges will come later.

These are cereals, 31 July 1977; rice, 31 August 1977; fruit and vegetables, live trees and other plants, bulbs, roots and the like, cut flowers and ornamental foliage and products processed from fruit and vegetables, 31 December 1977.

Goods subject to the common agricultural policy which are traded between the UK and other member states of the community will remain generally subject to charges made under the accession compensatory amount system until the last of the adjustments to align agricultural prices in the new member states to those of the original six has been made. This is expected to be not later than the end of 1977. The application of monetary compensatory amounts will continue beyond the ending of the transitional period.

For 'free circulation'* goods which are no longer subject to intra-community duties or equivalent charges the document which should be used for the purposes of the community transit system are the T2 or the T2L. The use of these documents then becomes necessary as soon as the transitional period for particular goods comes to an end. However, in order to make it possible for stocks of T3 and T3L forms to be used up and to minimise the need for traders to make decisions whether T2 or T3 status documents should be used when there is uncertainty about the end of the transitional period for the goods concerned in a particular consignment, it has been agreed in Brussels that until 31 December 1977 T3 and T3L documents may continue to be used for goods for which T2 and T2L documents would otherwise be appropriate. This agreement will be the subject of a commission regulation which is at present being drafted.

For goods which are no longer subject to intra-community duties and equivalent charges or to accession compensatory amounts, T2 and T2L documents may, of course, be used by traders if they so wish.

T3 or T3L documents must continue to be used for goods while they remain liable to intra-community duties and equivalent charges or to accession compensatory amounts. However the existing arrangements for the issue of 'replacement' community transit documents of T2 or T3 status for such goods imported from other member states will continue to apply.

It is intended that the issue of T3 and T3L documents will cease entirely after 31 December 1977, but it is expected that a new multi-purpose, multi-status form at present under consideration in Brussels will be brought into use on 1 January 1978 to replace the entire existing series of T forms (T1, T2, T3 and related T Bis forms). There will also be new designs of the T2L forms and the control copy T form.

The present documentary arrangements for goods sent under the simplified community transit rail procedure will remain unaltered until the end of 1977. Customs acceptance forms (C.1136) which are presented to Customs either by the sender or British Rail with the railway consignment note (CIM or TI Ex) should continue to be completed as instructed on the form.

The UK tariff should be consulted for information as to goods which will remain liable, until some date after 1 July 1977, to intra-community duties and other equivalent charges. Collector officers of HM Customs and Excise should be contacted for information regarding the continuing application of accession compensatory amounts.

*The expression 'free circulation' is here used to include goods which originate in the member states of the community as well as third-country goods on which all import charges due have been paid and not refunded in whole or in part.

Declarations of value for CAP goods

A recent investigation has shown that there are inconsistencies in the way that the values entered on import and, possibly, export documents are reflecting those import refunds and export levies known as monetary compensatory amounts (mcas) for imports and exports covered by the EEC's common agricultural policy. The value to be declared for customs statistical purposes for these goods should be as indicated below:

Importations from other member states of goods eligible for an mca subsidy
The basis of value for such importations is the invoice price excluding the mca. Thus if a supplier has anticipated the eventual payment to him of the mca and reduced the price shown on the invoice accordingly, the net price invoiced will be the basis of value for statistical purposes. But where the invoice price is not abated by the mca which will eventually be paid, this price is to be reduced by the mca to arrive at the required basis of value.

The actual value to be declared for statistical purposes should include all the costs, charges and expenses incidental to the delivery of the goods to the port of importation into the UK. Where these are not already included in the invoice price an appropriate adjustment should be made (see notice 252).

In the case of importation from Italy, the mca is claimed by the importer from the UK Intervention Board for Agricultural Produce; for importations from other member states the mca is claimed by the exporter from the appropriate agency in the exporting member state.

Exportations to other member states of goods liable to a UK mca export levy
It is expected that in most cases the exporter's invoice price will include the amount the exporter will be charged as export levy. Such a price (adjusted where necessary to the fob value) is the correct basis of valuation for statistical purposes. If therefore the price invoiced does not include the levy charge the appropriate levy amount is to be added in arriving at the proper basis of value. (See also notice 276).

Exportations to third countries of goods subject to CAP levies and/or refunds
Where only levy is involved the basis of value is as set out above. The same principle applies where both a levy and a refund are involved and the result is a net levy, (ie the value to be declared must include the net levy). Where a levy and a refund are involved and the result is a net refund, or where only a refund is involved, the basis of value is the amount the exporter will receive for his goods (this will normally be the invoice value, but where the invoice value includes the refund this should be deducted in arriving at the export value to be declared).

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

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Judith Hart visits Paris

Judith Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, was in Paris from 25 to 26 May for talks with M. Taittinger, a Minister of State in the French Foreign Office. Among the subjects discussed were the role of the European development fund, assistance to developing countries not associated with the EEC, food aid, and the work of the community's development council.

Competition policy report

The commission has published its sixth annual report on competition policy for 1976. This covers the main decisions and measures taken by the commission in applying article 85 and 86 of the treaty of Rome (competition between undertakings and the commission's actions under article 93 of the treaty in keeping under review national aids for industry).

The report is available from HMSO.

Overseas trade news

UK-USSR trade 'must be raised to new levels'

Soviet trade organisations have agreed to expand the list of projects included in the economic and industrial co-operation programme. This was one of the results of the sixth meeting of the Anglo-Soviet joint commission which was held in Moscow from 24 to 26 May.

Among projects currently under active discussion are those for the supply of equipment to the Soviet Union in the chemical, metallurgical and gas and oil industries.

Secretary of State for Trade Edmund Dell who led the UK delegation to the joint commission – a formal, inter-governmental meeting which covers trade and economic relations as well as scientific and technological co-operation – said afterwards that he hoped the new projects would lead to contracts for British companies.

Speaking at a press conference after the signing of a protocol at the end of the joint commission he said that, although UK exports to the rest of the world were increasing, there was an imbalance with the USSR. He emphasised the need for a better balance and structure in Anglo-Soviet trade.

Last year exports to the USSR totalled £240 million compared with £210 million in 1975. Soviet exports to the UK increased from £391 million to £667 million in the same period.

Mr Dell said one problem was the flow of information. The USSR was not always fully aware of what the UK could offer – its range of advanced technology and its capacity to supply.

But he was encouraged by his discussions in the formal joint-commission sessions and at his separate meeting with Soviet leaders, including the Prime Minister, Alexei Kosygin. The Soviet leaders had accepted that the level of UK-USSR trade was too low and Mr Kosygin had agreed that 'trade must be raised to new levels'.

The USSR, he said, was certainly interested in North Sea oil developments and the UK's capacity to contribute to their projects in the Caspian and Barents Seas.

Points in the communique issued at the close of the joint commission were:

1 About one third of the total amount available of the credit agreements signed in 1975 had been taken up – largely through contracts signed in the last 12 months.

2 These contracts included the construction of two methanol plants – the largest deal in the history of Soviet-UK trade.

3 There are now 15 agreements on scientific and technical co-operation involving UK companies.

With Mr Dell in the UK delegation was Alan Williams, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, who had talks with the Soviet ministers for oil, chemicals, gas industry and light industry. Also in the delegation were two businessmen, Mr G. A. Less, director of BP Trading Ltd, and Sir Cyril Pitts, ICI's general manager for international co-ordination, who acted as a special representative for the Confederation of British Industry. Leading for the USSR was deputy prime minister, Vladimir Kirillin.

Anglo-Soviet programme: new projects

New projects added to the Anglo-Soviet programme:

- Equipment for the automobile industry in the United Kingdom;
- Complete equipment and technical documentation for the production in the USSR of:
  - Plant protection chemicals
  - Chloroprene monomer
  - Epoxy powder paint
  - Polyacrylic fibres (including possible co-operation on a compensation basis);
- Equipment for the metallurgical industry;
- Equipment for the gas and oil industries including gas pumping stations;
- Equipment for the food industry;
- Equipment for the tobacco industry, including cigarette making and packaging machinery.

Dumping probe into Swedish loaders . . .

Following an application from the UK industry, Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, has decided that there is sufficient evidence of dumping and material injury to undertake a full anti-dumping investigation into imports of hydraulic loaders from Sweden. The product is a basic 6 to 8m ton loader, plus laterally extendable stabiliser supports giving extra outrigger width, for mounting on lorry chassis.

In accordance with the department's normal procedures for handling applications under the Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act 1969, a summary of the applicant's case will be made available to interested parties. Any representations should be made in writing not later than 15 June.

Such representations, in summarised form and without attribution to the source, maybe passed on to the applicant for comment. Those making representations should stipulate any points which they do not wish to be disclosed.

Representations and requests for summaries should be sent in writing to: General Division, Department of Trade, Room 336, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ.

. . . and textile yarn carrying cones from Spain

The department will also be carrying out an anti-dumping investigation into imports from Spain of certain paperboard cones, used in the textile-yarn spinning industry as spools on to which yarn is wound.

Conical yarn carriers of paperboard, some 18cm high and with angles of taper of (for the two most important types of cone) 9°15′ and 5°57′, are used in textile yarn spinning factories as the reels on to which newly spun yarn is wound. In order to give them adhesive qualities, so that the yarn stays in place, the cones are produced with a variety of embossed surfaces or they are roughened on an emery belt.

The investigation follows an application made under the Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act, 1969.

A summary of the applicant's case against imports of paperboard cones from Spain will be made available to interested parties who give an undertaking to treat the information contained in the summary in strict confidence. Any representations in connection with this application should be submitted in writing not later than 17 June. Such representations in summarised form and without attribution to source, may be passed to the applicant for comment. Those making the representations should stipulate any particular matters which they do not wish to be discussed.

Any representations and requests for copies of the statement, should be sent (together with an undertaking to treat the statement in strict confidence) in writing to General Division, Department of Trade, Room 348, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ.

Changes in overseas postal rates

Postal charges for some categories of overseas mail are to be increased on 13 June. These changes have been agreed with the Post Office Users' National Council (Pounc) and the government.

Full details of the revised prices are contained in the 'Postal Rates Overseas Compendium', a Post Office publication available

free of charge to export firms. A new issue (no. 1/77) of this booklet will shortly be sent to exporters on the Post Office exporters' mailing list.

Any exporter not on this list is invited to send his letterhead marked 'Compendium please' to PMk4 (Compendium), Freepost, Room 434, Postal Headquarters, St Martins le Grand, London EC1B 1HQ (no stamp is necessary).

In addition to receiving the compendium, exporters on this list are kept up to date on international postal developments by *Interpost* (an occasional newsletter of special interest to exporters by post) and other informative overseas post publications.

International copyright conventions

A new order* which enters into operation on 9 June takes account of the accession of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the Berne convention and of the Bahamas and Poland to the universal copyright convention.

Copies of the order may be obtained from Sale Branch, The Patent Office, Orpington, *Kent BR5 3RD*, or from any branch of HMSO.

*The Copyright (International Conventions) (Amendment No. 2) Order 1977 (SI 1977 No. 830).

International development council meets

Judith Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, presided at the second meeting of the Council on International Development which met in London on 23 May.

The council discussed international and regional development banks, the European development fund, the international fund for agricultural development, and other multilateral institutions, an independent critique of Britain's aid strategy, a comparison of the British aid performance with that of other donor countries and a progress report on the north-south dialogue.

ECGD backs £18m loans

Two loans worth together about £18 million are being backed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

A £10 million line of credit made available to the Korea Exchange Bank by Lloyds Bank will enable buyers in South Korea to place contracts in the UK for capital and semi-capital goods. UK exporters will receive 80 per cent of the contract price from the loan; the remaining 20 per cent is payable from the buyer's own resources.

To qualify under this line of credit the contract must have a minimum value of £20,000 and be placed by August 1978.

The second is a £7.6 million loan made available by National Westminster Bank to Ceskoslovenska Obchodni Banka, Czechoslovakia, to help finance a £9 million contract awarded by Skodaexport, the foreign trade organisation of Czechoslovakia to Loewy Robertson of Poole, a division of Davy Loewy, for the supply, supervision of erection and commissioning of a plant for the manufacture of seamless steel tube at Chomutov.

Problems in supplying overseas contracts

A one-day conference organised by the Institute of Purchasing and Supply's specialist section for the construction industry is to be held at the Excelsior Hotel, Heathrow, on 16 June, on the problems in supplying overseas contracts.

The conference has been planned to assist UK companies interested in working abroad, whether as main contractors, sub-contractors or suppliers. The various sessions will cover problems of purchase, despatch, shipping, insurance and receipt of materials on overseas projects. The problems of local purchasing and observing customs procedures will be examined and the speakers will give practical examples of major problems which can arise in dealing with overseas contracts.

Further details are available from the Conference Secretary, Institute of Purchasing and Supply, York House, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7UT, tel. 01-928 1851.

Anuga 77: largest UK participation ever

Anuga 77, to be held in Cologne from 10 to 15 September, will see the largest ever participation by the UK. Some 90 companies will take part, made up of about 85 in Consuma and five in Systema and Technica in a joint venture sponsored by the British Food Export Council and the British Overseas Trade Board, plus others exhibiting individually and on stands of agents. A full range of British food and drink products will be displayed, including many new items which will be introduced for the first time.

Among the exhibits will be a bread-baking operation, convenience and frozen foods, sugar and flour confectionery, together with traditional English tea, Scottish specialities and fine foods from Northern Ireland. Two of Britain's biggest food processing groups will also be represented.

Two prime ministers to address London chamber

In June, two prime ministers will be addressing meetings of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

On 15 June Lee Kuan Yew, Prime Minister of Singapore, will speak to a meeting of the Asian and Pacific Section and the South East Business Club. There will be an opportunity for questions.

On 20 June Robert Muldoon, Prime Minister of New Zealand, will address a meeting on 'Trading relations with the UK and EEC'. Again, there will be an opportunity for questions.

Details of both events can be obtained from: Diane Wright, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB, tel. 01-248 4444.

British industrial films win at US festival

Ten British films received top honours in Chicago at the United States industrial film festival's tenth annual international awards presentations on 5 May. The event received 750 entries from 14 nations.

Three films produced for BP received awards. 'Energy in Perspective' and 'Proteins' received a first place 'gold camera award'. A public relations film, also for BP, entitled 'The End of the Road' received a 'silver screen award'.

Other British films to receive gold camera awards were 'Stop Her' produced for Marks and Spencer, and 'I Owe You' produced for Training Services Agency.

Other silver screen awards were won by 'When Fire Starts . . .' produced for PC Insurance; 'Coachman' produced for Taylor's of London Ltd, and 'Carelessness' produced for the Ministry of Defence (Navy); 'Big Bill – The Story of A Heron' produced by the film unit of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds; and 'Landscape With Castles' produced for the British Tourist Authority.

Notices to importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH. Telephone inquiries should be addressed to the number at the end of the notice.

1618: Imports from three new Lomé signatories

As a result of the accession of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tomé and Principe, the Republic of Cape Verde and Papua New Guinea to the ACP-EEC convention of Lomé, existing quantitative restrictions on imports into the UK of textiles originating in these three countries have been removed.

These goods, in common with imports of most textiles from non-EEC countries, will however remain subject to UK surveillance licensing arrangements, details of which are set out in notices to importers 1484 and 1502.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644 ext. 367.

Overseas trade exhibitions

Car component makers keep up pressure on Japan

From N. K. Hook, British embassy, Tokyo

Following closely on the visit to UK of the Japan Automobile Manufacturers' Association (Jama) mission (see *Trade and Industry*, 13 May), extra publicity was gained by the second British automotive accessories and components exhibition held at the British Export Marketing Centre, Tokyo, from 10 to 14 May. It was jointly sponsored by the Society of Motor Manufactuers and Traders (SMMT) and the British Overseas Trade Board.

Over 1,300 people were recorded as having visited the centre in the course of the week. A very large percentage being members of Jama or Japia, the Japan Automobile Parts Industry Association. Each of the vehicle manufacturers sent teams of representatives to examine the products on show and one exhibitor commented on the highly professional audience; nearly all were serious visitors.

After the euphoria of the Jama mission, the exhibition itself might have seemed to some an anticlimax. Certainly the air of co-operation and goodwill engendered by the mission did not lead the experienced members of the exhibitors' group to anticipate a rush of orders, although business expected to accrue over the next year from contacts made at the exhibition was said to run to seven figures. Most of the participating companies have representation in Japan; in particular Smiths Industries, GKN and the Lucas group. Unrepresented companies were able to tie up agency agreements during the week, apart from one company still discussing arrangements.

As before, immediate success went to the accessory manufacturers. But, without exception, the exhibitors considered the promotion had been worthwhile; the exhibition having introduced many useful contacts, and helped to stimulate or consolidate interest in products already familiar in the Japanese market.

A 14-man SMMT mission, representing companies supplying the motor industry, also visited Japan from 7 to 19 May. The very keen interest which has also been shown in their companies' products seems to confirm the overall impression reached at the exhibition that, while the Japanese companies are traditionally cautious in coming to a decision, they are now at least giving active consideration to the purchase of foreign-made parts for Japanese cars.

As a further move to strengthen British presence in the Japanese automobile industry, SMMT has now assembled a group of exhibitors to take part in the Tokyo motor show at the end of October. Automobile components and accessories constitute one area at least where British industry is ensuring that our businessmen cannot be criticised for lack of effort in the Japanese market.

Henry Carlton, export director of Cannon Rubber demonstrates to Nissan Motor's president Mr T. Iwakoshi (right) a selection of fitted car mats made for European car manufacturers.

Combined engineering fairs attract 38,000

From H. D. Newcomb, British consulate-general, Chicago

On 9 May, Chicago's McCormick Place was the setting for two concurrent events – the national plant engineering and maintenance show and the design engineering show. The combined exhibitions attracted one of the largest gatherings of engineers to take place anywhere in the United States this year. Over 38,000 visitors attended.

The London chamber of commerce, in co-operation with the British Overseas Trade Board, sponsored a joint venture at both shows where 17 British companies displayed a wide range of products.

Newcomers to the exhibition and the United States market included Swift Act Tools Ltd, Brightwell Dispensers Ltd, and by Spunalloys Ltd. Brightwell Dispensers Ltd featured dispensers for liquid soaps and other viscous liquids. Special interest was shown in their model 2000 horizontal push pump unit. Examples of centrifugal casting were featured by Spunalloys Ltd. The firm's castings have an absolute minimum porosity and are used in bearings, bushes, switchgear, etc.

Members of the joint venture who have attended these exhibitions in the past included Rotaprint Ltd, Matrix Engineering, Castle Associates, Warwick Pump and Engineering Co Ltd and Rotostock Ltd. These firms are either represented here or have set up their own subsidiary.

By the end of the second day, many of the UK exhibitors were already making plans for taking space for the 1978 show. The business obtained from this year's event will not be known for several months. However, unquestionably the British group created a lot of interest.

Successful Animark

From Robert Hyde, British embassy, Paris

The second international pet trade exhibition (Animark) was held from 7 to 9 May at the Parc Floral, in the Bois Vincennes on the outskirts of Paris. This event was an interesting example of Anglo-French co-operation; like its only predecessor in 1975, it was organised jointly by companies in Paris and London, the British side of the organisation being part of the Leray-Howard Group.

The exhibition attracted some 150 direct exhibitors from 11 countries. More than half the exhibitors were foreign and of these Britain accounted for 34, including 32 companies in a joint venture sponsored by the Pet Trade Association. The British group occupied over 500m² of stand space in a prominent position in the show, and most of the British firms reported excellent results. Among those enjoying a particularly successful show were Interpet, with its heating and other equipment for aquaria, Whitehouse Cox, with the Pathfinder range of leather dog equipment, and tailored dog coats.

This was an attractive and businesslike trade exhibition which consolidated the success of its predecessor. Animark is now established as a regular biennial event.

Over 2,300 companies are already taking part in Export Year. But there is still plenty of time to join them. Write to or phone the Export Year Office, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1 0ET. Tel. 01-215 5180/3393/5773.

Overseas trade
export successes

Bulldozers for Pakistan and Kenya

Aveling Marshall – the Gainsborough firm – part of Leyland Special Products group – has won record bulldozer contracts from Pakistan and Kenya worth over £4.25 million, the biggest-ever orders in the company's 130-year history.

The two orders total 187 crawler-tractor bulldozers to be delivered over the next eight months.

The biggest export contract has come from the Pakistan government, which has ordered 160 Aveling Marshall 75 hp bulldozers and spare parts worth over £3.25 million to be delivered in batches of 25 between now and the end of the year.

These machines – backed up by an Aveling Marshall service support and driver training programme – will be used on a five-year land clearance project in the southerly Pakistan province of Sind.

The other order is for 27 Aveling Marshall 140 hp bulldozers worth over £1 million for the Kenyan government. These machines – to be delivered by the end of the summer – will also be used for land development work.

Further information: circle 400

Cementation International wins Iran hotel contract

Cementation International has been awarded a contract worth £11.3 million to build and equip two 28-storey blocks of flats with an adjacent car park in the Farahzad district of Tehran.

The contract is for the first stage of the Tehran Taj community development project, and will provide 208 flats to be completed in mid-1979. There will eventually be some 800 apartment units.

Further information: circle 401

. . . and an airport contract

After recently concluding a contract for two hotels at Gdynia, Cementation International has signed a second contract (valued at £48 million) with the Polish foreign trade enterprise, Intraco, for the design, construction and equipping of an air terminal complex in Warsaw. This brings to around £72 million the value of contracts recently won by Cementation in Poland in the face of intense overseas competition, representing a real breakthrough for the British construction industry in this market.

The air terminal building is believed to be the largest civil engineering contract awarded to a British company in eastern Europe and comprises a 43-storey tower block four-storey podium and basement, which together will provide some 15 floors of airline offices, a terminal hall, shopping arcade and 21 floors of hotel accommodation.

Work will begin this September and take three years to complete.

Further information: circle 402

STC gains undersea link contract

Standard Telephones and Cables, London, has been awarded a £28 million contract for a high-capacity undersea telecommunication system in the far east.

The contract was awarded to STC's submarine systems division by the Telecommunication Authority of Singapore (Telecoms) and Eastern Telecommunications Philippines Inc (ETPI). The undersea link will run for 1,500 nautical miles between Currimao (Luzon, Philippines) and Katong (Singapore).

STC will design, manufacture and implement the entire system on a turnkey basis. The system is made up of the cable, about 230 repeaters, and terminal equipment. The major part of the work will be carried out at the company's submarine systems division factories at Greenwich and Southampton.

Further information: circle 403

All-British security system at Piarco

International Aeradio Ltd, of Southall, is supplying an automated conveyor belt system to Piarco to screen registered hold baggage and freight.

The system will be installed under a contract awarded to International Aeradio (Caribbean) Ltd, by the Central Tenders Board of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

It will be the second of two systems, called the Rapidex Security Screening Systems, the first of which has already been installed. Total value of the contract is about £96,000.

Further information: circle 404

Galbestos for Sebha

Libya's Department of Civil Aviation, through its consultants Italconsult of Italy, and contractor Technoexportstroy of Bulgaria, has signed a contract with H. H. Robertson (UK) Ltd, Chester, for the supply of Galbestos cladding and ventilation at Sebha International Airport.

Sebha is the capital of Fezzan and is the third largest city in Libya.

This will be the third Sebha contract for H. H. Robertson (UK) Ltd, of Chester, giving a total fob value of approximately £1 million.

Further information: circle 405

Mining equipment orders

A Glasgow firm has its first year of trading under a new name with a £1.25 million export order for mining equipment.

The company, Anderson Strathclyde – formerly Anderson Mavor – has secured contracts for mineral extraction equipment from Spitzbergen, Argentina, Pakistan and the United States.

The machines are backed by maintenance and spares.

Further information: circle 406

Road-making machinery order

An export order worth £6.7 million, the biggest single order ever received by Frederick Parker, Leicester, quarry and builders' plant manufacturers, means the company will be supplying over the next 12 months 84 mobile crushing and screening plants and asphalt-producing units for important road works in the Philippines.

The order has come from the Department of Public Highways of the Republic of the Philippines and is considered one of the largest ever made by the department to a single manufacturer.

Eight plants a month will be built and already the first batch is nearly ready for packing and shipment.

Further information: circle 407

Orders for hand tools

Record Ridgway Tools, which manufactures hand tools has recently obtained three major overseas orders worth a total of £750,000.

Each of the orders is valued at £250,000 and is for the supply of tools to Iraq in the Middle East, and to west Africa.

Further information: circle 408

Overseas trade country data

Australia

Temporary protection: luggage. The Department of Industry and Commerce has received a request for temporary protection against the import into Australia of luggage (tariff item 42.02.900). Requests for temporary protection are initially considered by the department and at a later stage they may be referred to the Temporary Assistance Authority for inquiry and report within 30 days of the date of the reference.

Any temporary protection which may be awarded on the recommendation of the Temporary Assistance Authority is in the nature of holding action pending government consideration of the general question of protection for the local industry.

Interested parties who wish to make their views known on this subject for temporary protection should write to the Department of Industry and Commerce, Canberra ACT 2600 as soon as possible to ensure that there is sufficient time for their communication to arrive by 10 June 1977.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref: CRE 862/77

Reference on yarns and fabrics. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 20 May, reported a reference to the Industries Assistance Commission on the question whether short-term assistance should be given to the production in Australia of:

1 wool textiles and other goods falling within the following items of the customs tariff: 50.09.1; 51.04.1; 53.06; 53.07; 53.10; 53.11; 55.09.3; 56.05.2; 56.06.2; 56.07.2; 56.07.3; 58.04.9; 62.01 or 94.04.9.

2 Cotton and discontinuous man-made fibre yarns: tariff items 55.05.912; 55.05.913; 55.05.919; 55.05.929 or 56.05.9.

This reference has now been amended to incorporate the following additional items:

Acrylic yarns other than acrylic apparel yarns; all man-made fibre random knitting yarns; all types of curtains and knitted net fabric other than polyolifin fabrics (tariff items 56.05.39; 56.06.9; 60.01.91 and 62.02.7).

The date of the public hearing remains on 7 June as announced in the previous notice.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref: CRE 685/77; CRE 686/77

Temporary protection: sandals. The Department of Industry and Commerce in Australia has received a request for temporary protection against the import of thong sandals with outer soles of rubber or artificial plastics material (tariff items 64.01.990 and 64.02.990). Requests for temporary protection are initially received and considered by the department and at a subsequent stage they may be referred to the Temporary Assistance Authority for inquiry and report within 30 days of the date of the reference.

Any temporary protection which may be accorded on the recommendation of the Temporary Assistance Authority is in the nature of a holding action pending government consideration of the general question of protection for the indigenous industry.

Interested parties who wish to make their views known on this request for temporary protection should write immediately to the Department of Trade and Industry, Canberra, ACT 2600.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref: CRE 861/77

Paradichlorobenzene: public hearing. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 22 April, reported a reference to the Industries Assistance Commission to inquire into and report on the by-law admission of paradichlorobenzene (tariff item 29.02.01). The public hearing on this reference will be held in the Public Inquiry Room, Industries Assistance Commission, Kings Avenue, Canberra ACT 2600, commencing 10.00 am, Monday, 20 June 1977.

Intending witnesses should send statements of evidence to the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, GPO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref: CRE 678/77

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

Barbados

Import licensing of aerated waters. By SI 97 of 1977, the Barbados authorities have announced that the following goods under tariff heading 22.02 now require an import licence:

Lemonade, flavoured spa waters and flavoured aerated waters and other non-alcoholic beverages.

Issued by: OTAR section ext. 7312/456/457.

Belgium

Tobacco. The *Moniteur Belge*, 85, 30 April, published two decrees dated 15 and 16 April 1977 amending the decree of 16 June 1973 concerning excise duty on tobacco and tobacco products.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 288/466/467.

Brazil

Changes in manufactured goods tax. Decree 79 464, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 6 April, increased the rate of manufactured goods tax (IPI) incident on watch bracelets of tariff heading 91.01.05.00.

Bracelets falling under tariff no. 91.01.05.01 are now charged at 18 per cent and the remainder of the heading at 12 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Duty exemption on beans. Customs Policy Council resolution 2940, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 1 April, exempted a quota of 150,000 tonnes of beans, under tariff number 07.05.03.00, from import duty. The concession is temporary and lapses on 31 December.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Duty exemptions on fertilisers. Customs Policy Council resolution 2943, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 5 April, gave duty exemptions on ammonium sulphate, under tariff no. 31.02.03.00, urea, under tariff no. 31.02.06.00 and mono- and diammoniac phosphates, under heading 31.05.01.00.

The concession applies to a quota of 10,000 tonnes of nitrogen content in these fertilisers, to be used in the north-east region (the littoral states between Bahia and Paraiba).

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Reference prices on latch needles for knitting machines. Customs Policy Council resolution 2939, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 28 March, established reference prices on latch needles for knitting machines, under tariff heading 84.38.16.00, of $US 75 per thousand.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Duty exemptions on agricultural chemicals. Customs Policy Council resolution 2941, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 5 April, exempted from import duty for an indefinite period technical products and raw materials suitable for the manufacture or preparation of herbicides, fungicides and insecticides. The products affected come under the following tariff classifications:

28.44; 28.46; 29.02; 29.06; 29.09; 29.11; 29.16; 29.19; 29.21; 29.22; 29.25; 29.26; 29.28; 29.29; 29.30; 29.31; 29.34; 29.35

Resolution 2942, also published in the *Diario Oficial* of 5 April, exempted from import duty for a period of one year, a list of insecticides, herbicides and insecticides falling within the following tariff classifications:

23.07; 28.34; 29.21; 29.22; 29.23; 29.25; 29.31; 29.32; 29.38; 30.02; 30.03; 38.11; 38.19; 39.03

Copies of the resolutions (in Portuguese) specifying the goods affected are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Patent and trade mark licensing. In *Trade and Industry*, 4 February, page 318, a notice was published giving details of Normative Act 015 of 16 September 1975.

That notice made provisions for further explanatory information to be published and Brazilian authorities have explained the position as regards clause (c) of section 3.5.1 which had previously been the subject of discussions.

Information has been received that:

1 There can be no question of a Brazilian licensee using the licensor's trade mark on other goods that he may manufacture or market which have no connection with the goods covered by the licence. The following is offered as an alternative translation of part of clause (c) of section 3.5.1:
'. . . with the trade mark or publicity slogan licensed to him, or *his own* separately . . .'
2 Licences are only granted for a specific period of time, at the end of which the Brazilian licensee has no rights to the trade mark. Clearly therefore, if the licence lapses or is cancelled at any time, the Brazilian licensee loses his rights to that trade mark. It follows therefore that if he is to build up any goodwill during the period in which he is allowed to use the foreign trade mark then it must be done by placing his own mark alongside it, and continuing to use his own mark after the original foreign trade mark is no longer available to him.

Inquiries: Industrial Property and Copyright Department, tel. 01-405 8721 ext. 3243.

Chile

Import regulations for used or second-hand goods. Chilean Ministry of Finance decree 158, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 4 April, introduced new regulations applicable to imports of used or second-hand goods.

Used or second-hand goods, hitherto subject to a duty of 120 per cent on the cif value, are now subject to the rate of duty applicable to the equivalent new goods, plus a surcharge of 150 per cent of that rate.

Imports of used capital goods – for customs purposes broadly defined as any machinery or equipment used in producing other goods – are exempt from the 150 per cent surcharge, provided this is specifically authorised by the Chilean Central Bank on the import registration form. Similarly the Chilean Copper Commission (Comision Chilena del Cobre) may authorise exemption from the 150 per cent surcharge for used capital goods imported for its own use.

Decree 158 also permits second-hand goods to be imported by individuals for non-commercial purposes provided the value of the consignment does not exceed $US 100 cif or, if brought into Chile by travellers from a free zone area, $US 1,000 fob.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Ecuador

Prior deposit reduction. Regulation 964-77, 28 April, decrees that the prior deposit required on all goods included in list I part B of the importation lists should be reduced from 20 per cent cif to 10 per cent cif.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Federal Republic of Germany

Pre-packaging order. The revised pre-packaging order which incorporates the original order of 16 December 1971 and four amending orders together with the Consumer Milk Marking Order of 19 June 1974, is to come into effect on 1 July 1977. An unofficial English translation is available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 467/288/466.

Greece

Additional taxes on luxury goods. By decision of the Greek government as from 19 May, a purchase tax of 25 per cent is to be levied on the following products:

Smoked salmon, goose liver paste, black cavier, champagne, whisky, gin, rum, vodka, dog and cat food, perfumes, snake and crocodile skins, furs, wigs, precious stones, jewellery, loudspeakers, amplifiers and ivory objects.

The special tax on passenger cars is rated as follows:

23drs per cc for cars up to 1200cc; 28drs per cc for cars up to 1800cc, 40drs per cc for cars over 1800cc; with a maximum of 100,000drs and a minimum of 25,000drs.

A special tax will also be levied on scooters and motorcycles. A circulation tax of 350drs on 1-10 hp; 700drs on 11-13 hp; 1,400drs on 14-15 hp and 2,100drs on over 17 hp.

Other taxation measures to come into force on 1 January 1978 include a 100 per cent increase in the circulation tax on cars with an engine capacity over 1,800cc; a special tax on motor bicycles, as well as an increase in their circulation tax.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 439.

Lebanon

Import licensing amendments. The Lebanese authorities have announced that machinery, equipment and parts thereof, including used machinery falling under the following CCCN headings are no longer subject to licensing restriction by the Ministry of Economy and Commerce:

84.01; 84.02; 84.03; 84.05; 84.06;(a)(b); 84.07; 84.08(a)(b); 84.10(c)(d); *84.11(a)(b); 84.13; 84.14; 84.15(a); 84.16; 84.17(a); 84.18(a)(b); 84.19(a) 84.21(a)(b); 84.26; 84.27; 84.28; 84.29; 84.30; 84.31; 84.32; 84.33; 84.34(b); 84.35; 84.36; 84.37; 84.38; 84.39; 84.40(a); 84.41(a); 84.42; 84.43; 84.44; 84.45; 84.46; 84.47; 84.50; 84.56; 84.57; 84.59(a)(b); 84.65(a); 85.11(a)

* Including air compressors of any power falling under CCCN 84.11.

Inquiries: see below.

Cement and sugar. *Trade and Industry*, 27 May, promised further details when available on the waiving of the licensing restriction on the import of cement and sugar. These have now been received and are as follows:

CCCN	Description
17.01(b)	Sugar
17.01(c2)	Sugar
25.23(a)	Cement

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 475/7062.

Liberia

Import of paint. The Liberian Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Transportation has announced that paints are now subject to import control. All orders for paints must be channelled through the ministry before being placed abroad. Only imports relating to approved orders will be allowed into the country.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 463/471/472/473.

Import controls. The Liberian government has announced measures to control the importation of toilet tissues, paper napkins, and kitchen towels. Future orders must be channelled through the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Transportation. Only orders approved by the ministry will be permitted to enter the country.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 463/471/472/473.

Malaysia

Prohibition of Rank Xerox colour copier. The Malaysian government has passed the Customs (Prohibition of Imports) (Amendment) Order 1977 which, from 21 April, absolutely prohibits the import of the Rank Xerox 6500 colour copier to any part of Malaysia.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 469/401/468.

New Zealand

Import prohibition (textiles). The New Zealand government have introduced the Customs Import Prohibition (Textiles) Order 1977 which came into force on 13 May where the importation of second-hand clothing, blankets, rugs and all rags and flock is prohibited; except with the consent of the Minister of Customs and subject to such conditions as he thinks fit to impose.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

South Africa

Industrial rebates. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 6 May 1977:

R.761 Item 311.19 CCCN 56.07
311.20 CCCN 51.04 and 55.09
311.21 The deletion of CCCN 51.04.55 and 55.09.55
The deletion of CCCN 56.07.55 and 58.04
311.25 The deletion of CCCN 56.07.75 and 56.07.90
311.02 The deletion in para 2 CCCN 56.07

The provisions for a rebate of duty on certain woven fabrics for use in the manufacture of outer garments are amended to the extent of full duty less 20 per cent and 25 per cent. The provisions for a rebate of duty on certain woven fabrics for use in the manufacture of under garments, foundation garments, elasticised apparel and belts, and for use as upholstery material in the manufacture of motor vehicles are withdrawn.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

Customs tariff changes. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 13 May:

R.790 CCCN 39.03: The effect of this notice is that the separate provisions for unplasticised and plasticised chemical derivatives of cellulose are eliminated with a resultant amendments of the rates of duty where applicable.

R.791 CCCN 85.14: The rate of duty on loudspeakers not incorporated or housed in cabinets or other articles, with a maximum cross-sectional dimension of the cone section exceeding 100mm is increased from 12.5 per cent (general) and 7.5 per cent (preferential) to 25 per cent general.

R.792 CCCN 40.11, 87.01, 87.02, 87.04: The effect of this notice is that the rate of duty on rubber pneumatic tyres and tyre cases (excluding those for use on aircraft or pedal cycles and those suitable for retreading only), with a mass of 20kg or more, imported as replacement equipment and on pneumatic tyres, with a mass of 20kg or more, imported as original equipment with unassembled motor vehicles classifiable in subheadings 87.01.60, 87.02.15, 87.02.22, 87.02.24, 87.02.60, 87.02.67 and 87.02.70 and assembled and unassembled chassis classifiable in subheadings 87.04.20, 87.04.25 and 87.04.40, is amended from 3,000c per 100kg (general) and 2,635cc per 100kg (preferential) to 10,500c per 100kg less 50 per cent of the fob price or 3,000c per 100kg (general) and 10,135c per 100kg less 50 per cent of the fob price or 2,635c per 100kg (preferential).

Duke of Kent visits Sweden

The Duke of Kent records his visit to Atlas Copco AB, Stockholm, Sweden, with a compressed-air power tool. The Duke visited Sweden from 16 to 18 May in his capacity as vice-chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board. During his visit he called on several large industrial and retail customers of British industry. With the Duke is Peter Wallenberg (second from right) chairman of Atlas Copco AB.

Registered trade marks

The lists of tariff, customs and import regulation changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

R.793 CCCN 39.02: Specific provision is made for plaiting material of vinyl chloride polymers or copolymers, with a rattan core, and the rate of duty thereon is reduced to free.

INDUSTRIAL REBATES

R.794 Item 306.04, 306.08, 307.03, 308.02, 312.01, CCCN 39.03: The provisions for a rebate of duty on – 1 celluloid flakes and on plasticised nitro-cellulose chips, pigmented, for the manufacture of colour, paint, varnish and allied products 2 plasticised cellulose nitrates, for the manufacture of igniter cord 3 cellulose nitrate, for the manufacture of moulded plastic goods 4 celluloid sheets, for the manufacture of fancy leather goods and handbags and 5 celluloid sheets, for making heel plates, for covering heels or for making shoe fillers, are withdrawn as the rate of duty on plasticised cellulose nitrates is reduced to free.

R.795 Item 316.10, CCCN 85.000: The provision for a rebate of duty on loudspeakers (excluding those mounted in cabinets) is limited to loudspeakers with a maximum cross-sectional dimension of the cone section not exceeding 100mm or of a value for duty purpose exceeding 200c each.

R.796 Item 306.01, 320.06, CCCN 29.08 and 39.07: 1 Provision is made for a rebate of the full duty on ether alcohol, for the manufacture of alkylpolyalcohol-sulphonates. 2 The provision for a rebate of duty on unworked discs of polyester material, for the manufacture of buttons, buckles and combs, is withdrawn.

R.797 Item 512.01, CCCN 41.03: Provision is made for a drawback of the full duty on sheep and lamb skin leather used as linings in the manufacture of footwear for exports.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

Spain

Fruit juices and by-products. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 6 May, published royal decree 992 approving the technical and hygiene regulations for the preparation and sale of fruit juices and by-products.

An English translation of this decree is available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462/471/472/473.

Tubular reactors – joint assembly. In the Spanish *State Gazette*, 16 May, the Spanish authorities published approval under the special system of joint assembly of a pro forma resolution for the manufacture of tubular reactors with a wall thickness of at least 18mm for the chemical and petrochemical industries.

The parts, components and ancillary material which may have to be imported for inclusion in the Spanish manufacture (which cannot be made locally) will be subject to a reduction of 95 per cent of the corresponding import duty.

On application a specific resolution could be approved by the Spanish Directorate of Tariff Policy given a technical and sufficiently detailed description of the parts, components etc to be imported with the reduced import duty provided the total value of such parts does not exceed 45 per cent of the total industrial cost price. The pro forma resolution will be valid for two years from February 1977.

British exporters interested in proposing themselves as potential partners should send details of their equipment to the British Embassy, Commercial Department, Fernando El Santo 16, Madrid 4 who will make local inquiries on their behalf.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462/471/472/473.

Duty suspended on sodium carbonate. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 17 May, published royal decree 1076/1977 of the Ministry of Commerce suspending the import duties to be paid on the importation of sodium carbonate, tariff heading 28.42.C, valid from 2 May to 1 June 1977.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462/471/472/473.

Customs tariff modifications. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 16 May, published royal decree 1052/1972 of the Ministry of Commerce, modifying the Spanish customs tariff to read as follows:

CCCN		Description	Import duty
87.02.B.2		Motor vehicles specially designed for the transport or earth, rocks and mineral materials, fitted with a tipping body designed for such transport, with a weight, unloaded, and ready to operate:	
	a	Of at least 18,000kg	5%
	b	Of at least 14,000kg but less than 18,000kg:	
	1	With a distance between external axles of more than 4m	5%
	2	Other	22%
	c	Of less than 14,000kg:	
	1	Between 7,000kg and 14,000kg with a distance between external axles of more than 3.5m	5%
	2	Between 3,000kg and 7,000kg with a distance of no more than 2.8m	5%
	3	Other	50%

The above modifications are valid from 17 January 1977.
Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462/471/472/473.

Home compensation tax reduction on newsprint. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 24 May, published royal decree 1099/1977 announcing a concessional rate of 1.5 per cent home compensation tax levy on newsprint imported under the duty free import quota established for 1977:

CCCN	Description
48.01 A.1	Newsprint intended exclusively for the publication of daily newspapers
48.01 A.2	Other newsprint

The above decree came into force on 24 May 1977.
Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462/471/472/473.

Turkey

Establishment of offices. *Official Gazette* 15874, 10 March, states that foreign persons wishing to establish offices in Turkey must obtain permission from the Ministry of Finance.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 439.

United States

Food dressing. The *Federal Register*, 17 May, published a final regulation by the Food and Drug Administration of a revised standard for salad dressing. All products shall fully comply by 1 January 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/487/7312.

Chlorofluorocarbons as propellants in self-pressurised containers. The *Federal Register*, 13 May, published rules proposed by the Food and Drug Administration to prohibit the use of chlorofluorocarbons as propellants in self-pressurised containers in products subject to the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. Some essential uses of chlorofluorocarbons would be exempt from the regulations.

Written comments (four copies) should be sent before 12 July 1977 to Food and Drug Administration, Room 4-65, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Cosmetic labelling of fluorocarbons. The *Federal Register*, 13 May, published a rule by the Food and Drug Administration to establish cosmetic ingredient labelling for seven fluorocarbon propellants. Failing proper objections all packages labelled from 9 November 1977 shall comply.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Imports of speciality steels under quota. Further to the notice which appeared in *Trade and Industry* on 27 May, the following table, derived from statistics made available by the US Customs Service, shows the products which are subject to quotas, the US quotas on imports from the EEC for the 12 months 14 June 1976 to 13 June 1977, and US imports of the products concerned from the EEC during this period, as at 20 May 1977.

Pounds weight

Product	US import quotas for 12 months 14 June 1976 to 13 June 1977	US imports during this period as at 20 May 1977
Sheet and strips of stainless steel (item 923.20)	34,082,000	30,826,694
Plates of stainless steel (item 923.21)	9,600,000	6,167,394
Bars of stainless steel (item 923.22)	4,200,000	2,359,741
Wire rods of stainless steel (item 923.23)	14,800,000	Quota filled
Bearing steel (item 923.25)	7,000,000	3,242,250
Alloy tool steel (item 923.26)	6,800,000	Quota filled

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5629.

Uruguay

Introduction of a single import duty. Decree 116/977, 23 February, published in *Diario Oficial*, 8 March, implements law 14629 of 5 January 1977 and establishes from 1 July 1977 a single import duty 'Impuesto Aduanero Unico a La Importacion' (Imaduni).

The present import duties will be abolished and all imports will be subject to a basic duty rate of 25 per cent to be levied, in accordance with the Customs Co-operation Council (Brussels) Definition of Value, on the cif value.

A new customs tariff is to be published and a further notice will be issued when more detailed information is received.

Copies of Decree 116/977 and law 14629 (in Spanish) are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Telewriter to be shown in Hong Kong

This ingenious communication system – called 'Cygnet' – for transmitting and instantaneously receiving handwritten messages, is one of a range of instruments from Feedback Instruments, Crowborough, that will be promoted in Hong Kong from 10 to 18 June during the visit of the Birmingham Engineering and Building Centre trade mission. The 'Cygnet' telewriter is easy to use – the sender simply writes a message on paper in the transmitter, and the message is instantly transcribed in the same handwriting on to the receiver, which can be in the next room or on the other side of the world.

CRE tel. Direct dialling **OTAR** telephone 01-248 5757
Extensions to **OTAR** numbers are given at the end of each notice

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
				of which			of which					
			Total	Manufacturing industry	Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	Manufacturing industry	Wholesalers	Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index Series in Stock level at end-1976	1970	£ million	£ million			£ million				£ million		
						18,218	10,404	1,830	1,977			
1970	100.0	31,644	9,453	2,130	1,799	442	325	68	−14	733	−25	758
1971	101.7	32,505	9,681	1,991	1,930	99	−148	52	22	1,087	280	807
1972	104.3	34,402	9,870	1,739	2,071	39	−145	48	15	131	−702	833
1973	110.3	36,003	10,279	1,872	2,390	1,127	404	102	382	−752	−2,334	1,582
1974	109.8	35,590	10,124	2,024	2,289	602	666	81	−111	−3,380	−5,221	1,841
1975	107.6	35,234	9,991	1,737	1,970	−680	−392	−111	−23	−1,635	−3,195	1,560
1976	108.9	35,290	9,562	1,651	1,898	−8	−4	22	1	−1,423	−3,592	2,169
1975 1st qtr.	109.4	8,988	2,534	471	492	−125	18	−31	−38	−544	−947	403
2nd qtr.	107.2	8,833	2,474	444	498	−267	−105	−54	−66	−295	−655	360
3rd qtr.	106.5	8,724	2,540	416	501	−208	−234	−29	38	−566	−967	401
4th qtr.	107.4	8,689	2,443	406	480	−80	−70	4	43	−230	−626	396
1976 1st qtr.	109.2	8,811	2,460	402	452	25	31	24	12	−80	−538	458
2nd qtr.	108.3	8,730	2,394	408	479	−97	−115	−22	−55	−439	−919	480
3rd qtr.	108.4	8,824	2 392	418	484	−22	4	10	22	−536	−1,148	612
4th qtr.	109.7	8,925	2,316	422	486	86	86	11	22	−368	−987	619
1977 1st qtr.		8,690 pe		410 p	476 p		208	49 p	80 p	−294	−954	660
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+0.3	+0.3	−3.0	+0.7	—							
on a year earlier	+2.0	+0.7	−5.5	+3.0	+3.2							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs (NOT seasonally adjusted)					Labour (UK)			Visible trade (Volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices		Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults	Export	Import
				monthly averages		% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used	manufactured products: home sales		mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count	On a balance of payments basis	
	at 1970 prices		at 1971 prices										at 1970 prices	
Base of index £m in base year Series in	1970	1970	1971 15,895	thousands	Jan. 1974		1970	1970	July 1972	thousands		thousands	1970 7,907	1970 7,932
1971	100.5	99.7	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	775.8	3.4	130.9	106.7	104.2
1972	102.7	102.4	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	854.9	3.7	147.3	107.1	116.7
1973	110.3	110.0	110.7	137.1	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2	115.6	611.0	2 6	307.0	122.2	133.8
1974	106.4	108.2	109.9	102 8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.7	599.7ø	2.6ø	302.7ø	131.2	136.2
1975	101.3	101.7	107.9	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	179.8	929.0	3.9	150.0ø	125.6	126.4
1976	102.2	103.4	108.1	104.7	157.1	16.5	299.0	219.6	214.5	1,269.8ø	5.4ø	120.4ø	135.9	134.2
1976 1st qtr.	101.8	101.8	107.3	103	149.4	22.5	266.5	206.9	205.5	1,220.3	5.2	116.7	131.5	126.1
2nd qtr.	102.4	103.6	107.6	106	154.9	16.0	292.6	214.4	212.8	1,252.1	5.3	119.4	137.1	134.6
3rd qtr.	101.5	103.5	108.9	97	158.5	13.7	306.8	223.2	218.6	1,305.5	5.5	123.6	134.2	137.9
4th qtr.	103.2	104.5	108.5	113	165.8	15.0	329.9	233.9	220.6	1,316.8ø	5.6ø	..	140.8	138.1
1977 1st qtr.	104.2 p	105.3 p	105.0	104	174.1	16.5	341.5 p	248.0 p	224.6 p	1,330.2	5.6		140.3	142.0
1976 May	104.5	106.4	106.8	110	155.2	15.4	292.0	214.8	211.7	1,253.3	5.3	120.0	137.2	134.7
June	100.5	101.1	107.3	91	156.0	13.8	299.6	217.0	216.6	1,261.1	5.3	115.7	138.5	137.1
July	101.4	103.6	108.8	91	156.3	12.9	302.0	219.8	219.0	1,288.9	5.5	118.6	130.4	139.4
Aug.	100.6	102.5	108.9	115	158.5	13.8	304.0	223.4	219.1	1,308.8	5.6	126.2	134.9	133.7
Sept.	102.4	104.4	108.9	86	160.6	14.3	314.4	226.3	219.2	1,318.7	5.6	125.9	137.3	140.4
Oct.	102.8	104.8	108.1	109	163.5	14.7	327.7	230.0	219.5	1,307.9	5.5	124.5	140.8	140.6
Nov.	103.4	104.9	109.2	119	165.8	15.0	331.8	234.6	220.7	..	..	..	138.1	140.1
Dec.	103.3	103.9	108.3	111	168.0	15.1	330.2	237.2	221.5	1,325.7 e	5.6 e	..	143.3	133.6
1977 Jan.	104.3	105.0	106.7	93	172.4	16.6	337.8	244.9	223.8	1,338.2	5.7	..	140.6	153.6
Feb.	104.0	105.2	105.7	118	174.1	16.2	339.5	248.2	224.8	1,331.4	5.6	150.5	138.0	133.7
Mar.	104.3 p	105.7 p	103.1	102	175.8	16.7	347.2 p	250.8 p	225.2	1,321.1	5.6	157.3	142.2	138.8
Apr.			104.0 p	108	180.3	17.5	349.1 p	255.1 p	225.9 p	1,322.6	5.6	158.5	148.4	138.1
May										1,315.9 p	5.6 p	161.2 p		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	+1.0	−0.7	−3.7	+1.5	+4.7		+3.6	+5.2	+1.5	−0.9			+1½	−4
a year earlier	+2.3	+3.4	−2.5	+2.5	+16.8		+25.6	+20.2	+8.2	+6.2			+7½	+7½

p Provisional pe Preliminary estimate † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100 .. not available ø Average of available months e estimate

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United Kingdom trade in the first quarter of 1977

Section 1

Visible balance (see tables 1, 2, 4 and note 9)

In the first quarter of 1977 there was a deficit on visible trade of £968 million compared with £987 million in the fourth quarter of 1976. Because of difficulties in seasonally adjusting imports in December and January, the reduction in the deficit is likely to be understated. The deficit on visible trade is estimated to have been partly offset by net invisible earnings of £660 million.

The reduction in the visible trade deficit was the result of a 1½ per cent increase in the terms of trade index as the export unit value index rose by 5 per cent compared with a 3 per cent increase in the import unit value index. The rise in the terms of trade index reflected the recent stability of sterling which substantially slowed the rate of increase in import prices while export prices early in the quarter were still being influenced to some extent by the depreciation between the third and fourth quarters of 1976. Partly offsetting these movements import volume rose by 3 per cent between the first quarter of 1977 and the fourth quarter of 1976 (although most of this rise reflects the distortions referred to above) while export volume was unchanged after its strong recovery in the previous quarter.

A major feature of trade in the first quarter was the developments in trade in petroleum and petroleum products. There was a reduction in the deficit on these items from £1,004 million in the fourth quarter of 1976 to £817 million in the first quarter of 1977. This was the lowest quarterly deficit since the third quarter of 1975 although there has been a 51 per cent rise in the landed price of crude oil in that time. The improvement between the most recent quarters resulted from both lower imports and higher exports. The £105 million fall in oil imports reflected a 14 per cent fall in the quantity of crude oil imported which at 18.8 million tons was the lowest quarterly figure recorded in the 1970s. Partly offsetting this fall in volume was a 3½ per cent rise in the price of crude oil. The £82 million rise in exports of oil was mainly due to an 80 per cent increase in the value of crude oil exports to £162 million. Both these developments reflect the increasing production of North Sea oil which in the first quarter of 1977 accounted for about a third of the UK's current oil consumption, while the lower import volume also reflected some reduction in the speculative stocks built up prior to the recent Opec price rise.

Overall the terms of trade index more than recovered from its fall in the previous quarter. The 3½ per cent appreciation of the effective exchange rate between the first quarter of 1977 and the fourth quarter of 1976 checked the sharp rise in import prices so that the import unit value index increased by 3 per cent compared with a 7½ per cent rise in the previous quarter. In contrast the export unit value index was still being influenced to a much larger extent by the earlier depreciation of the effective exchange rate in the second half of 1976 and recorded a 5 per cent rise between the first quarter of this year and the fourth quarter of last compared with a 6 per cent rise in the previous quarter. Although export prices respond somewhat more slowly to exchange rate movement changes than import prices, exporters now appear to react to such movements substantially faster than they seem to have done prior to the adoption of floating rates. The result of this changed pattern of behaviour is that the terms of trade have remained within 2 per cent of the level established in the second quarter of 1975 after the effects of the oil price rise have been absorbed despite the decline in the exchange rate since that time.

The relative volume index fell back in the first quarter after its strong recovery in the fourth quarter of 1976. Import volume rose by 3 per cent while export volume was unchanged. The rise in import volume to a large extent reflected problems of seasonally adjusting the December and January import figures (see note 9). Smoothing out these effects would give a faster rise in the fourth quarter compared with the third quarter of 1976 but a flatter path into the first quarter of 1977. Following the sharp recovery in the fourth quarter of 1976, there has been a pause in the growth of export volume in the first quarter of 1977.

The reduced visible trade deficit in the first quarter of 1977 represented a consolidation of the improvement compared with 1974 when a deficit of £5,221 million was recorded in the immediate aftermath of the oil price rise. A combination of a rise in the terms of trade index and an improvement in the relative volume in 1975 led to a reduced deficit of £3,195 million in that year. In 1976, although export volume increased faster than import volume the ½ per cent deterioration in the terms of trade led to an increase in the visible trade deficit to £3,592 million. As a percentage of imports however, these deficits amounted to 24 per cent of imports in 1974, 14 per cent in 1975 and 12 per cent in 1976. In the first quarter of 1977 there was a further reduction to the 12 per cent shown by the figures, despite the difficulties with seasonal adjustment discussed above.

The volume of UK exports has broadly followed the course of world trade with a 4½ per cent fall in 1975 followed by an 8 per cent rise in 1976. Despite the fall in 1975 however, the UK's performance

TABLE 1 Visible trade†

Seasonally adjusted — £ million

	Exports			Imports				
	Overseas Trade Statistics basis fob	Coverage adjustments	Balance of payments basis fob	Overseas Trade Statistics basis cif	Freight insurance and other valuation adjustments	Coverage adjustments‡	Balance of payments basis fob	Visible balance
1970	8,076	+46	8,121	9,040	−901	+7	8,146	−25
1971	9,187	−125	9,061	9,825	−997	−47	8,781	+280
1972	9,759	−310	9,449	11,143	−1,033	+41	10,151	−702
1973	12,505	−390	12,115	15,852	−1,374	−29	14,449	−2,334
1974	16,600	−150	16,450	23,234	−1,643	+80	21,671	−5,221
1975	19,922	−543	19,379	24,128	−1,580	+26	22,574	−3,195
1976	25,778	−484	25,294	31,213	−2,005	−322	28,886	−3,592
1975 1st quarter	4,748	−104	4,644	5,950	−370	+11	5,591	−947
2nd quarter	4,722	−111	4,611	5,573	−375	+68	5,266	−655
3rd quarter	4,962	−154	4,808	6,190	−417	+2	5,775	−967
4th quarter	5,490	−174	5,316	6,415	−418	−55	5,942	−626
1976 1st quarter	5,740	−129	5,611	6,681	−435	−97	6,149	−538
2nd quarter	6,310	−101	6,209	7,678	−502	−48	7,128	−919
3rd quarter	6,500	−100	6,400	8,110	−525	−37	7,548	−1,148
4th quarter	7,228	−154	7,074	8,744	−543	−140	8,061	−987
1977 1st quarter	7,562	−147	7,415	8,954	−549	−22	8,383	−968
Percentage change Q1/Q4	+4½		+5	+2½			+4	

† See note 3.
§ Components and totals are rounded independently.
‡ Including adjustments for arrivals of and payments for United States military aircraft, etc.

was slightly better than that of our competitors on average resulting in a rise in our share of world trade in manufactures. The indications are that despite the rise in volume of our exports in 1976 there has been some loss of share compared with 1975. Import volume in its turn has mirrored the course of the domestic economy. In 1975 there was a sharp fall reflecting both the reduced level of activity and substantial de-stocking, with an increase in 1976 as the domestic economy recovered and de-stocking came to an end. The terms of trade index fell sharply in 1973 and 1974 as the effects first of the world commodity price boom and then the oil price rise were felt in import prices. Since the second quarter of 1975 however, the terms of trade have remained stable despite the depreciation of sterling. Since that time exporters have appeared to adapt more quickly and fully to a floating exchange rate.

Estimated net invisible earnings of £2,169 million in 1976 partly offset the deficit on visible trade so that the current account of the balance of payments was in deficit by £1,423 million. This was an improvement compared with the current account deficit of £1,635 million in 1975 and was the result of an increase of £609 million in the surplus on invisibles outweighing the £397 million worsening on visible trade. The 1976 performance was also a substantial improvement on the £3,380 million deficit on current account in 1974.

Area analysis of the visible trade balance (see table 3)

There were wide variations in the developments of the UK's visible trade balance with the major areas of the world. Among the developed countries exports to the other members of the EEC on a balance of payments basis rose by 5 per cent between the fourth quarter of 1976 and the first quarter of 1977. Between the same periods imports from those countries rose by 4 per cent so that the visible trade deficit fell from £574 million in the fourth quarter of 1976 to £564 million in the first quarter of 1977 representing some 17 per cent of imports, a proportion as low as any quarter of 1976. On trade with the rest of western Europe, exports and imports rose by 6 per cent, so that the surplus with this area was little changed at £59 million in the first quarter of 1977.

Imports from north America which included three large aircraft increased faster than exports to that zone (7 per cent compared with 5 per cent) so that the visible trade deficit increased to £288 million representing 25 per cent of imports, much the same level as in the previous two quarters. For the other developed countries there was a favourable movement as an 11 per cent rise in exports outweighed a 1½ per cent increase in imports leading to a reduction in the deficit with these countries from £96 million to £51 million.

The largest movement took place within the other countries of the

TABLE 2 Changes in value, volume and unit values of exports and imports on balance of payments basis

Seasonally adjusted except Unit Values

	Exports fob			Imports fob			Terms of trade**	Relative volume index†
	Value	Volume index	Unit value index	Value	Volume index	Unit value index		
	£m	1970 = 100		£m	1970 = 100		1970 = 100	1970 = 100
1970	8,121	100.0	100.0	8,146	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1971	9,061	106.7	105.6	8,781	104.2	104.7	100.9	102.4
1972	9,449	107.1	111.1	10,151	116.7	109.7	101.3	91.8
1973	12,115	122.2	126.0	14,449	133.8	139.6	90.3	91.3
1974	16,450	131.2	162.7	21,671	136.2	216.7	75.1	96.3
1975	19,379	125.6	198.5	22,574	126.4	245.0	81.0	99.4
1976	25,294	135.9	240.6	28,886	134.2	299.4	80.4	101.3
1975 1st quarter	4,644	128.8	184.9	5,591	127.9	239.8	77.1	100.7
2nd quarter	4,611	122.6	193.4	5,266	122.0	240.4	80.4	100.5
3rd quarter	4,808	121.3	202.2	5,775	128.3	246.4	82.1	94.5
4th quarter	5,316	129.6	210.1	5,942	127.4	259.7	80.9	101.7
1976 1st quarter	5,611	131.5	219.0	6,149	126.1	268.3	81.6	104.3
2nd quarter	6,209	137.1	234.2	7,128	134.6	291.7	80.3	101.9
3rd quarter	6,400	134.2	247.4	7,548	137.9	307.3	80.5	97.3
4th quarter	7,074	140.8	261.7	8,061	138.1	330.0	79.3	102.0
1977 1st quarter	7,415	140.7	274.5	8,383	142.4	340 7	80.6	98.8
Percentage change Q1/Q4	+5	—	+5	+4	+3	+3	+1½	−3

** Export unit value index as percentage of the import unit value index.
† Export volume index as percentage of the import volume index.

TABLE 3 Visible trade on balance of payments basis area analysis

Seasonally adjusted values

	EEC			Rest of W. Europe			North America			Other developed countries			Oil exporting countries		
	Exports	Imports	Visible balance	Exports	Imports	Visible balance	Export	Imports	Visible balance	Exports	Imports	Visible balance	Exports	Imports	Visible balance
1970	2,348	2,304	+44	1,392	1,213	+179	1,221	1,705	−484	974	825	+149	474	587	−113
1971	2,512	2,697	−185	1,519	1,401	+118	1,416	1,587	−171	1,077	854	+223	580	768	−188
1972	2,836	3,421	−585	1,604	1,641	−37	1,552	1,631	−79	931	1,085	−154	637	768	−131
1973	3,943	5,108	−1,165	2,055	2,332	−277	1,872	2,150	−278	1,209	1,411	−202	791	1,120	−329
1974	5,565	7,571	−2,006	2,745	3,103	−358	2,237	2,948	−711	1,703	1,610	+93	1,221	3,440	−2,219
1975	6,258	8,606	−2,348	3,076	3,136	−60	2,276	2,952	−676	1,831	1,850	−19	2,263	2,967	−704
1976	9,007	11,084	−2,077	3,978	3,994	−16	3,040	3,862	−822	1,917	1,923	−6	3,158	3,867	−709
1975 1st quarter	1,470	2,084	−614	771	763	+8	583	794	−211	479	435	+44	475	759	−284
2nd quarter	1,450	1,978	−528	730	713	+17	535	683	−148	451	480	−29	577	684	−107
3rd quarter	1,526	2,203	−677	775	893	−118	521	734	−213	439	451	−12	593	771	−178
4th quarter	1,812	2,341	−529	800	767	+33	637	741	−104	462	484	−22	618	753	−135
1976 1st quarter	1,929	2,335	−406	830	839	−9	677	801	−124	491	411	+80	690	855	−165
2nd quarter	2,211	2,811	−600	995	960	+35	756	948	−192	466	439	+27	750	883	−133
3rd quarter	2,290	2,787	−497	1,013	1,113	−100	782	1,031	−249	487	504	−17	794	1,084	−290
4th quarter	2,577	3,151	−574	1,140	1,082	+58	825	1,082	−257	473	569	−96	924	1,045	−121
1977 1st quarter	2,711	3,275	−564	1,208	1,149	+59	867	1,155	−288	526	577	−51	997	948	+49
Percentage change Q1/Q4	+5	+4		+6	+6		+5	+7		+11	+1½		+8	−9½	

world; for the oil exporting countries an 8 per cent rise in exports and a 9½ per cent fall in imports saw the balance swing from a deficit of £121 million in the fourth quarter of 1976 to a surplus of £49 million in the first quarter of 1977. This is the first quarter in which the UK has earned a visible trade surplus with this group of countries over the period since 1970 for which figures have been compiled. It is a reflection of the continuing growth of our exports to this grouping since the oil price rise at the end of 1973 and the advent of North Sea oil which began to affect oil imports significantly during the quarter. In contrast there was a substantial worsening vis a vis the rest of the world from a position of near balance in the fourth quarter of 1976 to a deficit of £219 million in the first quarter of 1977 reflecting a sharp growth of 19 per cent in imports and a slight fall of 1 per cent in exports.

Exports (see tables 1, 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8)

The value of exports in the first quarter of 1977 was £7,562 million seasonally adjusted on a balance of payments basis, 4½ per cent higher than in the final quarter of 1976. This rise was wholly the result of higher export prices – the volume of exports remained unchanged.

The sluggishness in export volume followed a rise of 5 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1976. Nevertheless, export growth has been modest since the early summer of 1976. Between the second quarter of 1976 and the first quarter of 1977 the volume of exports rose by 2½ per cent (an annual rate of 3½ per cent). While firm information on main manufacturing countries exports of manufactures (world trade) is not yet available for the whole of this period, it seems likely that the growth in UK exports has been rather less than the growth in world trade.

While the 5 per cent rise in export prices in the first quarter of 1977 was only slightly slower than the increase in the previous quarter, the rate slowed substantially during the quarter. This slow down reflected the stability of sterling since the late autumn of 1976.

The value of exports to the developed countries in total in the first quarter of 1977 rose by 5½ per cent, measured on an overseas trade statistics basis. Exports to the rest of the EEC rose by 5 per cent, and there was an increase of 4 per cent in shipments to the rest of western Europe. The value of goods despatched to north America increased by 6 per cent in the first quarter, while shipments to the other developed countries were 12 per cent higher. The value of exports to the developing countries as a whole rose by 3½ per cent in the first quarter. An increase of 9½ per cent in the value of shipments to the oil exporting countries more than offset a fall of 2½ per cent in exports to the other developing countries. The value of goods despatched to the centrally planned economies was 7½ per cent higher in the first quarter of 1977 than in the previous quarter.

Among the major commodity groups, measured on an overseas trade statistics basis, exports of manufactures rose by 4½ per cent in value in the first quarter of 1977. This increase entirely reflected higher export prices; there was no change in the volume of deliveries.

Within manufactured goods, the value of exports of machinery and transport equipment rose by 1 per cent in the first quarter but volume fell by 3½ per cent, reflecting a 2 per cent fall in the volume of machinery shipments and a 7½ per cent fall in the volume of motor vehicles and other transport equipment exported. The value of exports of road motor vehicles rose by 4 per cent but exports of other transport equipment, one of the more erratic elements of trade, fell by 18 per cent. The value of exports of chemicals rose by 4½ per cent in the first quarter, but volume fell by 2 per cent. Most of the 7½ per cent rise in the value of textiles exported reflected higher export prices, while the increase of 9½ per cent in other manufactures reflected broadly equal rises in volume and price. The value of exports of non-manufactured goods in total rose by 12 per cent. Shipments of food, beverages and tobacco and of basic materials increased in value by 7 per cent and 8 per cent respectively. Most of the rise of 21 per cent in the value of fuel exports reflected increased exports of crude oil, which rose to £162 million in the quarter, compared with £90 million in the last quarter of 1976.

Imports (see tables 1, 2, 9, 10, 11 and 12)

In the first quarter of 1977, imports were valued at £8,383 million seasonally adjusted on a balance of payments basis, 4 per cent higher than in the fourth quarter of 1976. Difficulties in seasonally adjusting the December and January import figures mean that the rise in imports between the two quarters is likely to be overstated and many of the figures given in this section will be affected.

Unlike recent quarters where price changes have been the dominant factor determining movements in value, price and volume contributed more or less equally to the change in value between the fourth quarter of 1976 and the first quarter of 1977. Overall import volume increased by 3 per cent reflecting rises in most of the major categories. The one exception was imports of fuels where the value of imports fell by 8 per cent, reflecting a volume fall of 10 per cent. These movements owed much to a 14 per cent fall in the quantity of crude oil imported, the result of the build-up of North Sea oil production and some drawing down of speculative stocks amassed prior to the recent Opec price rises. All the other major categories of imports recorded rises in value and volume. Imports of food, beverages and tobacco rose by 6 per cent in value and 2½ per cent in volume, sharp rises in the volume and value of tobacco (recovering from a fall in the previous quarter) and coffee and cocoa offset a substantial fall in dairy products. The rise in the value of coffee and cocoa represented substantial imports in advance of the price rises which occurred during the first quarter. The value of industrial materials imported rose by 4 per cent and volume by 2½ per cent. Within the group chemicals recorded a rise of 11 per cent in value and 8 per cent in volume while basic materials rose by 6½ per cent in value and 3½ per cent in volume with rises in pulp and waste paper and metal ores more than offsetting falls in textile fibres and wood. Other semi-manufactures showed a rise of 1 per cent in value and volume, a 19 per cent fall in the volume of iron and steel imports nearly offsetting broadly spread rises in the other components of this group. The fall in iron and steel is a reaction against heavy imports in the fourth quarter of 1976 and reflected the low level of demand and destocking. A volume increase of 3½ per cent was the major factor in a 5 per cent rise in the value of imports of finished manufactures. Within the group there was a 17 per cent rise in the value of imports of transport equipment (road motor vehicles rising by 14 per cent and other transport equipment by 30 per cent, this latter figure reflecting the arrival of three large aircraft from the USA) largely the result of a 15 per cent rise in volume. In contrast imports of machinery fell by ½ per cent in value and 1 per cent in volume while imports of other finished manufactures rose by 8 per cent in value and 9 per cent in volume. In terms of an end use classification, within the overall volume rise, there was a fall in the volume of capital goods imported which was more than offset by gains in consumer goods and other finished manufactures.

The stability of sterling since the agreement with the IMF has had a substantial impact on the rate of increase of import prices. The 3 per cent increase in the import unit value index between the first quarter of 1977 and the fourth quarter of 1976 is the lowest movement since the summer of 1975 and less than half the rise recorded in the previous quarter. Also unlike previous quarters where the exchange rate for sterling has been the dominating feature, the changes in the first quarter in the main reflect movements in commodity prices on the world markets. The 4½ per cent rise in the unit value index for

TABLE 3 *continued*

£ million

Rest of world			Total – all areas				
Exports	Imports	Visible balance	Exports	Imports	Visible balance		
1,712	1,512	+200	8,121	8,146	−25	1970	
1,957	1,474	+483	9,061	8,781	+280	1971	
1,889	1,605	+284	9,449	10,151	−702	1972	
2,245	2,328	−83	12,115	14,449	−2,334	1973	
2,979	2,999	−20	16,450	21,671	−5,221	1974	
3,675	3,063	+612	19,379	22,574	−3,195	1975	
4,194	4,156	+38	25,294	28,886	−3,592	1976	
881	783	+98	4,644	5,591	−947	1975	1st quarter
865	689	+176	4,611	5,266	−655		2nd quarter
957	745	+212	4,808	5,775	−967		3rd quarter
972	846	+126	5,316	5,942	−626		4th quarter
1,009	942	+67	5,611	6,149	−538	1976	1st quarter
1,021	1,042	−21	6,209	7,128	−919		2nd quarter
1,042	1,051	−9	6,400	7,548	−1,148		3rd quarter
1,122	1,121	+1	7,074	8,061	−987		4th quarter
1,112	1,331	−219	7,415	8,383	−968	1977	1st quarter
−1	+19		+5	+4		Percentage change Q1/Q4	

food, beverages and tobacco largely reflected higher prices for coffee, cocoa and tea and for fruit and vegetables, all of which were in short supply in the period. The 3 per cent rise in fuel prices reflected the Opec price rises at the beginning of the year offset to some extent by the 4 per cent recovery in the value of sterling against the US dollar, the currency in which oil prices are fixed. Within the 3½ per cent rise in the unit value index for industrial materials, there was a 5 per cent rise for basic materials, a 1½ per cent rise for chemicals and a 3 per cent rise for other semi manufactures. The rise in basic materials reflected sharply higher prices for textile fibres and wood partly offset by falls in the unit value index for pulp. The lower rise in chemicals probably reflected the recovery of sterling against the US dollar, in which many chemical prices are quoted. The rise in other semi-manufactures was broadly spread over all the major components of the group; the largest rise occurring in non-metallic mineral manufactures (mostly precious stones) and the smallest in textiles. In finished manufactures there was a ½ per cent fall overall in the unit value index, a 3½ per cent increase in the unit value index for transport equipment being insufficient to offset the falls of 1 per cent in machinery and 1½ per cent in other finished manufactures. Among the major sources of imports, arrivals from the developed countries in total rose by 3 per cent between the fourth quarter of 1976 and the first quarter of 1977. The rise was widespread among the component areas of the group. Imports from the EEC rose by 3 per cent but there was a ½ per cent increase in the value of arrivals from the rest of western Europe, the absence of further arrivals of North Sea oil production installations from this area and erratic movements in precious stones helping to explain the small rise. In contrast, the arrival of three large aircraft from the USA helped to swell the total of imports from north America which grew by 6½ per cent between the same quarters. Imports from the other developed countries grew by 2½ per cent, large increases in arrivals from South Africa and Japan being largely offset by sharp falls in imports from New Zealand and Australia. Imports from the developing countries were 2 per cent higher but within the group there was a sharp contrast between the 9½ per cent fall in arrivals from the oil exporting countries, largely a reflection of reduced crude oil imports, and the 16 per cent rise in imports from the other developing countries resulting from the higher

TABLE 4 Balance of trade in petroleum and petroleum products* (Division 33 of SITC(R))

Seasonally adjusted — Balance of payment basis

	Balance of visible trade	Imports					Exports		
		Total	Crude oil			Rest of division	Total	Crude oil	Rest of division
	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	Million tons	Average value per ton £ fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob
1970	−484	660	450	100.4	4.5	210	176	8	168
1971	−650	862	643	105.6	6.1	219	212	10	202
1972	−658	877	659	102.7	6.4	218	219	21	198
1973	−942	1,283	941	111.5	8.4	342	341	24	317
1974	−3,422	4,118	3,347	109.1	30.7	771	696	29	667
1975	−3,106	3,827	3,069	85.6	35.9	758	721	30	691
1976	−3,964	5,126	4,092	85.7	47.8	1,034	1,162	177	985
1975 1st quarter	−774	949	759	22.2	34.3	190	175	7	168
2nd quarter	−682	840	696	20.7	33.8	144	158	2	156
3rd quarter	−785	976	800	22.4	35.6	176	191	5	186
4th quarter	−865	1,062	814	20.3	40.2	248	197	16	181
1976 1st quarter	−960	1,179	929	21.5	43.4	250	219	18	201
2nd quarter	−957	1,219	956	20.6	46.5	263	262	25	237
3rd quarter	−1,043	1,355	1,080	21.8	49.6	275	312	44	268
4th quarter	−1,004	1,373	1,127	21.8	51.9	246	369	90	279
1977 1st quarter	−817	1,268	1,011	18.8	53.8	257	451	162	289
Percentage change Q1/Q4		−7½	−10	−14	+3½	+4½	+22	+80	+3½

* See note 7.

TABLE 5 Exports: areas¶ (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob

	Total	Developed countries				Developing countries		Centrally planned economies
		EEC	Rest of W. Europe	North America	Other	Oil exporting countries	Other	
1970	8,076	2,359	1,368	1,231	956	466	1,352	308
1971	9,187	2,660	1,512	1,444	1,064	579	1,609	284
1972	9,759	2,940	1,730	1,600	945	645	1,560	309
1973	12,505	4,034	2,266	1,937	1,219	800	1,792	411
1974	16,600	5,516	2,952	2,263	1,699	1,210	2,384	516
1975	19,922	6,417	3,369	2,329	1,879	2,277	2,925	667
1976	25,778	9,174	4,275	3,098	1,943	3,143	3,362	727
1975 1st quarter	4,748	1,503	826	598	485	479	705	154
2nd quarter	4,722	1,490	773	546	455	580	699	159
3rd quarter	4,962	1,566	850	544	461	599	746	183
4th quarter	5,490	1,859	919	641	478	619	775	170
1976 1st quarter	5,740	1,958	914	691	501	695	809	175
2nd quarter	6,310	2,246	1,053	773	472	751	807	183
3rd quarter	6,500	2,342	1,061	797	490	786	837	182
4th quarter	7,228	2,628	1,247	837	481	911	909	187
1977 1st quarter	7,562	2,763	1,297	886	537	997	887	201
Percentage change Q1/Q4	+4½	+5	+4	+6	+12	+9½	−2½	+7½

¶ See note 2.

prices and volumes of many of the commodities despatched to the UK from those countries. Imports from the centrally planned economies rose by 15 per cent.

Section 2

Exports by area
(see tables 5 and 13)

In the first quarter of 1977 exports were valued at £7,562 million on an overseas trade statistics basis, 4½ per cent more than in the previous quarter. Deliveries to the developed countries rose by 5½ per cent in these three months and to the developing countries by 3½ per cent, both rates of increase lower than in the previous quarter.

UK exports to the EEC in the first quarter rose by 5 per cent to £2,763 million, a modest rise in comparison with the fourth quarter when it was 12 per cent. Deliveries increased however to all countries within the community, the greatest rise being to the Irish Republic where exports rose by 10 per cent, mainly due to larger exports of fertilisers and machinery. Exports to Italy rose by 8½ per cent due to increased shipments of chemicals, metals and road motor vehicles but these were partly offset by a drop in deliveries of petroleum and petroleum products. Exports to West Germany, our largest EEC market, also rose by 8½ per cent, to £568 million. The main impetus to this growth came from a sharp rise in crude oil deliveries. Shipments to the Netherlands increased by 6½ per cent to £489 million. Exports of crude oil also increased to this market as well as chemical elements and compounds and passenger motor cars, but there was a sharp reduction in the deliveries of dairy products and a fall in metal exports. Exports to Belgium and Luxembourg and to France increased by 5½ per cent and 4 per cent respectively. Increased shipments of petroleum and petroleum products, contributed to the rise in exports to Belgium and Luxembourg but there was again a fall in dairy product exports. Exports to Denmark, our smallest market in the EEC, grew by a modest 1 per cent.

Deliveries to the rest of western Europe in the first quarter rose by 4 per cent to £1,297 million, a smaller increase than the 18 per cent rise in the previous quarter. There were disparate movements among the countries in this group. The value of goods despatched to Switzerland rose by 27 per cent in the first three months of 1977, with a large increase in diamond exports which formed nearly three-fifths of

TABLE 6 Exports: commodity classes¶ (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob

						Manufactures									
							Machinery and transport equipment								
		Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles	Other transport equipment*	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures	Miscellaneous
1970		8,076	514	273	207	6,806	3,301	2,221	834	246	784	959	396	1,366	276
1971		9,187	588	278	236	7,825	3,871	2,593	988	290	884	1,005	426	1,639	260
1972		9,759	660	321	239	8,257	4,014	2,716	915	383	962	1,015	445	1,821	283
1973		12,505	876	433	370	10,455	4,774	3,221	1,100	453	1,272	1,310	590	2,509	371
1974		16,600	1,063	576	767	13,685	6,059	4,215	1,304	540	2,144	1,712	745	3,025	509
1975		19,922	1,428	561	814	16,459	8,233	5,782	1,736	715	2,179	1,837	699	3,511	660
1976		25,778	1,694	776	1,255	21,347	10,126	7,062	2,224	840	3,047	2,347	934	4,892	707
1975	1st quarter	4,748	355	137	208	3,915	1,882	1,327	409	149	561	477	173	813	145
	2nd quarter	4,722	298	133	181	3,919	2,006	1,393	413	191	510	456	163	814	160
	3rd quarter	4,962	377	135	208	4,108	2,123	1,492	452	165	517	442	171	841	171
	4th quarter	5,490	398	156	217	4,517	2,223	1,570	463	210	590	463	191	1,044	185
1976	1st quarter	5,740	397	164	240	4,792	2,347	1,658	510	190	670	483	204	1,063	175
	2nd quarter	6,310	406	182	286	5,229	2,514	1,741	553	203	733	575	223	1,228	170
	3rd quarter	6,500	419	197	333	5,414	2,530	1,753	561	200	783	635	240	1,204	178
	4th quarter	7,228	472	232	395	5,913	2,735	1,910	601	246	860	653	267	1,397	183
1977	1st quarter	7,562	504	251	479	6,169	2,764	1,951	623	203	899	684	287	1,527	193
	Percentage change Q1/Q4	+4½	+7	+8	+21	+4½	+1	+2	+4	−18	+4½	+4½	+7½	+9½	+5½

¶ See note 2. * Not seasonally adjusted.

TABLE 7 Export: volume indices (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

Seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

						Manufactures							
							Machinery and transport equipment						
		Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures
Weights		1,000	64	34	26	844	410	276	134	97	119	49	169
1970		100.0	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1971		108.9	109	99	101	110	108	109	107	110	107	106	119
1972		111.3	113	107	102	112	106	106	105	118	108	111	128
1973		126.5	135	114	107	128	117	119	114	143	123	127	148
1974		132.9	142	115	101	135	125	127	120	169	116	125	154
1975		129.8	155	107	93	130	133	136	128	142	102	105	145
1976		139.4	156	122	108	140	133	135	130	171	108	124	168
1975	1st quarter	132.6	164	106	104	134	133	136	129	150	114	102	147
	2nd quarter	126.7	135	101	88	127	133	134	129	134	102	100	139
	3rd quarter	125.7	150	105	91	127	134	136	123	136	96	104	134
	4th quarter	134.4	171	118	89	133	132	135	131	148	95	114	159
1976	1st quarter	135.4	160	118	92	137	134	137	129	164	98	116	160
	2nd quarter	140.3	151	119	104	141	135	135	130	167	110	122	173
	3rd quarter	137.3	152	118	114	139	130	132	124	171	114	126	161
	4th quarter	144.6	161	131	121	144	134	134	136	180	111	130	176
1977	1st quarter	144.3	165	138	134	144	129	131	126	176	118	132	184
	Percentage change Q1/Q4	—	+2½	+5	+11	—	−3½	−2	−7½	−2	+6½	+2	+4½

UK exports to this market. Exports to Spain increased by 13 per cent reflecting a higher value of deliveries of basic materials and chemicals. Shipments to the Scandinavian countries of Norway, Sweden and Finland fell by 5½ per cent, 3 per cent and 2½ per cent respectively. There was generally little change in the value of exports of the various commodity groups to all these three countries, but to Norway and Sweden there was a sharp fall in exports of petroleum and petroleum products.

In the first quarter of 1977 deliveries to north America rose by 6 per cent, with an increase of 8 per cent, to £714 million, to the USA, a higher rate of increase than in the last quarter of 1976. The USA maintained its position as the UK's largest single market, although by less of a margin than hitherto. In 1975, for example, exports to the United States were nearly three-fifths greater than to West Germany (our second market). In the first quarter of 1977 however the margin had shrunk to one-quarter. Although exports of a number of commodities fell (including whisky) they were offset by a sharp increase in crude oil which more than doubled in this quarter. The value of exports sent to Canada fell by 1 per cent with reductions widely spread over the commodities. It is possible that the harsh weather in north America early in 1977 may have had an effect on UK exports to this area in the first quarter.

Shipments to the other developed countries as a group rose by 12 per cent. Exports to New Zealand and Australia rose by 20 per cent and 10 per cent respectively, partly due to increased shipments of non-electrical machinery. Exports of road motor vehicles rose to New Zealand but fell to Australia. Exports to Japan rose in value by 12 per cent in the first quarter with increased deliveries of whisky, metals and non-electrical machinery. The value of goods despatched to South Africa rose by 5½ per cent but was nevertheless 18 per cent lower than a year earlier.

In the first quarter of 1977 deliveries to the developing countries rose by 3½ per cent to £1,884 million which included an increase of 9½ per cent in exports to the oil exporting countries, to £997 million. Exports to two major markets among the oil exporting countries, Iran and Nigeria, rose by 32 per cent and 5 per cent respectively. Part of the rise to Iran was due to increased deliveries of non-electrical machinery and passenger motor cars. Exports to Saudi Arabia fell by 6½ per cent in the first quarter, partly due to reductions in shipments of electrical machinery and wood and cork manufactures. Outside

TABLE 8 Exports: unit value indices (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

Not seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

						Manufactures							
							Machinery and transport equipment						
		Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures
1970		100.0	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1971		105.6	106	104	115	105	110	109	111	102	99	102	102
1972		111.1	113	113	116	111	118	118	117	104	100	104	107
1973		125.8	126	143	166	124	128	128	129	114	115	123	125
1974		161.4	148	181	381	155	153	155	149	169	164	159	146
1975		198.3	178	198	439	193	196	200	189	209	194	177	180
1976		240.1	213	240	553	234	245	250	234	238	228	202	221
1975	1st quarter	184.9	166	192	416	179	179	182	172	200	184	178	163
	2nd quarter	193.4	176	199	421	188	190	192	185	209	189	177	172
	3rd quarter	202.0	183	200	442	197	201	202	201	209	195	177	185
	4th quarter	210.1	187	202	474	205	213	217	203	211	202	180	192
1976	1st quarter	218.9	192	211	496	214	224	231	210	219	206	185	199
	2nd quarter	234.3	211	229	530	229	242	248	230	232	216	196	213
	3rd quarter	247.4	220	249	553	242	254	258	246	245	233	207	226
	4th quarter	261.7	229	262	608	256	269	273	260	259	247	222	239
1977	1st quarter	274.4	238	276	643	268	284	288	275	272	255	235	249
	Percentage change Q1/Q4	+5	+3½	+5½	+6	+5	+5½	+5½	+6	+5	+3	+5½	+4

TABLE 9 Imports: commodity classes¶ (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million cif

					Industrial materials				Finished manufactures						
										Machinery and transport equipment†					
		Total	Food beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery†	Road motor vehicles	Other transport equipment*	Other	Miscellaneous
1970		9,040	2,047	945	3,862	1,362	543	1,957	2,072	1,498	1,199	169	130	574	113
1971		9,825	2,176	1,247	3,842	1,271	569	2,003	2,431	1,730	1,278	275	177	701	129
1972		11,143	2,356	1,242	4,286	1,323	651	2,312	3,130	2,238	1,568	482	188	892	129
1973		15,852	3,094	1,724	6,239	1,963	897	3,380	4,632	3,293	2,374	653	266	1,339	163
1974		23,234	3,762	4,626	8,925	2,561	1,579	4,785	5,549	3,903	2,968	647	288	1,647	372
1975		24,128	4,335	4,301	8,341	2,204	1,411	4,726	6,663	4,794	3,614	883	297	1,869	489
1976		31,213	4,993	5,652	11,296	3,223	2,000	6,073	8,860	6,389	4,637	1,398	354	2,471	412
1975	1st quarter	5,950	1,062	1,061	2,141	582	366	1,194	1,555	1,113	812	198	96	442	150
	2nd quarter	5,573	984	952	1,952	529	318	1,104	1,505	1,066	801	222	70	439	127
	3rd quarter	6,190	1,122	1,099	2,043	516	331	1,197	1,834	1,359	1,054	228	70	475	105
	4th quarter	6,415	1,167	1,188	2,205	578	397	1,231	1,769	1,257	947	235	60	513	106
1976	1st quarter	6,681	1,070	1,301	2,418	678	431	1,309	1,821	1,270	909	265	95	551	96
	2nd quarter	7,678	1,250	1,346	2,735	760	486	1,489	2,151	1,572	1,180	325	99	579	117
	3rd quarter	8,110	1,266	1,493	2,904	856	515	1,532	2,344	1,716	1,255	392	64	628	107
	4th quarter	8,744	1,406	1,511	3,239	929	568	1,743	2,543	1,831	1,293	416	96	713	92
1977	1st quarter	8,954	1,490	1,390	3,376	988	629	1,758	2,666	1,897	1,289	474	124	769	105
	Percentage change Q1/Q4	+2½	+6	−8	+4	+6½	+11	+1	+5	+3½	−½	+14	+30	+8	+15

* Not seasonally adjusted. † Includes North Sea production installations. ¶ See note 2.

TABLE 10 Imports: areas¶ (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million cif

	Total	Developed countries				Developing countries		Centrally planned economies
		EEC	Rest of W. Europe	North America	Other	Oil exporting countries	Other	
1970	9,040	2,440	1,311	1,855	856	828	1,342	389
1971	9,825	2,915	1,452	1,732	947	1,067	1,316	376
1972	11,143	3,520	1,819	1,784	1,141	1,034	1,402	423
1973	15,852	5,206	2,700	2,357	1,461	1,490	2,018	594
1974	23,234	7,713	3,460	3,241	1,679	3,795	2,581	742
1975	24,128	8,786	3,571	3,206	1,849	3,265	2,678	735
1976	31,213	11,396	4,584	4,219	2,124	4,210	3,514	1,133
1975 1st quarter	5,950	2,134	843	859	448	830	677	184
2nd quarter	5,573	2,026	774	745	456	745	612	161
3rd quarter	6,190	2,228	1,014	798	472	853	658	184
4th quarter	6,415	2,399	940	804	473	827	731	210
1976 1st quarter	6,681	2,436	987	882	430	933	764	277
2nd quarter	7,678	2,887	1,083	1,023	498	964	870	301
3rd quarter	8,110	2,828	1,231	1,122	578	1,179	912	274
4th quarter	8,744	3,245	1,283	1,191	619	1,135	969	282
1977 1st quarter	8,954	3,343	1,287	1,268	635	1,027	1,123	325
Percentage change Q1/Q4	+2½	+3	+½	+6½	+2½	−9½	+16	+15

¶ See note 2.

TABLE 11 Imports: volume indices (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

Seasonally adjusted values — Indices 1970 = 100

	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Industrial materials				Finished manufactures				
				Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Machinery and transport equipment†			Other
									Total	Machinery†	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	
Weights	1,000	227	105	427	151	60	216	229	166	133	33	63
1970	100.0	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1971	104.8	100	109	101	91	103	106	115	113	106	140	122
1972	116.0	102	109	109	93	118	119	146	145	136	183	147
1973	132.7	102	112	125	104	140	136	186	185	176	219	189
1974	133.8	99	106	129	93	151	147	189	188	188	192	191
1975	124.4	98	89	113	78	122	135	183	182	176	203	186
1976	133.5	101	87	127	93	150	145	196	197	186	241	193
1975 1st quarter	125.5	96	91	117	82	125	138	185	186	177	216	183
2nd quarter	119.0	90	85	109	77	111	130	171	168	164	206	182
3rd quarter	126.4	101	90	111	74	117	136	192	193	190	198	189
4th quarter	126.8	103	90	116	79	134	137	183	180	175	191	189
1976 1st quarter	126.4	95	89	124	90	143	142	182	177	166	222	195
2nd quarter	134.1	101	87	126	92	148	144	193	196	189	244	186
3rd quarter	135.8	103	88	127	95	153	142	202	206	194	251	193
4th quarter	137.8	104	85	132	94	157	151	206	210	196	247	197
1977 1st quarter	139.6	107	76	135	97	170	152	213	213	194	283	215
Percentage change Q1/Q4	+1½	+2½	−10	+2½	+3½	+8	+1	+3½	+1½	−1	+15	+9

† Includes North Sea production installations.

TABLE 12 Imports: unit value indices (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

Not seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Industrial materials				Finished manufactures				
				Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Machinery and transport equipment			Other
									Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	
1970	100.0	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1971	104.9	107	122	99	102	102	96	106	107	107	108	102
1972	109.1	114	123	102	106	104	99	111	112	109	124	110
1973	138.1	150	164	131	141	125	126	128	127	123	141	131
1974	210.3	193	468	190	208	207	172	152	147	143	163	164
1975	235.9	219	535	199	215	229	180	188	183	181	194	200
1976	288.6	247	704	239	260	267	217	237	232	227	253	249
1975 1st quarter	230.1	218	509	200	217	240	177	174	168	164	183	191
2nd quarter	231.9	219	506	198	213	236	177	186	181	179	191	197
3rd quarter	237.6	217	536	200	213	230	182	196	192	189	204	207
4th quarter	249.5	223	591	206	222	234	187	205	199	197	210	220
1976 1st quarter	258.8	228	636	210	226	239	190	213	207	204	221	226
2nd quarter	281.4	243	686	230	248	262	210	234	230	225	251	242
3rd quarter	296.4	246	728	247	266	274	226	246	242	237	262	258
4th quarter	318.9	268	768	268	295	296	240	265	258	251	287	284
1977 1st quarter	327.6	280	790	277	310	302	248	264	258	248	297	280
Percentage change Q1/Q4	+2½	+4½	+3	+3½	+5	+1½	+3	−½	—	−1	+3½	−1½

the oil exporters, there was a sharp fall of 22 per cent in exports to Israel, in contrast to the sharp rise in exports in the previous quarter. Deliveries of diamonds to this market tend to make the pattern volatile. Among the other developing countries exports to India rose by 16 per cent but fell by 12 per cent to Brazil.

The value of deliveries to the centrally planned economies was £201 million in the first quarter, an increase of 7½ per cent. Exports rose by 14 per cent to Poland but fell by 10 per cent to the Soviet Union, reflecting a fall from the high value of deliveries of ships in the final quarter of 1976.

Exports by commodity
(see tables 6, 7, 8 and 14)

Exports of manufactured goods in the first quarter amounted to 82 per cent of total exports and, at £6,169 million, were 4½ per cent up in value on the previous quarter. In volume terms, shipments were unchanged; the value increase was commensurate with the 5 per cent overall increase in prices. Within the broad group of manufactured goods, the value of machinery exports increased by 2 per cent, increased prices outweighing a fall of 2 per cent in volume. Among machinery items, exports of gas turbines rose markedly from a low fourth quarter level, reflecting high deliveries to the oil exporting countries, while shipments of statistical machines, oil and gas production installations, and telecommunications apparatus fell in the first quarter. Deliveries of road motor vehicles increased in value in the first quarter to £623 million, while exports of other transport equipment, which consists mainly of ships and aircraft and thus tends to be erratic, fell by 18 per cent to £203 million. Taken together these two commodity groups fell by 7½ per cent in volume. The rise in the value of road motor vehicle exports was concentrated in western Europe and the oil exporting countries. There was a fall in deliveries to the United States.

Chemical shipments in the first quarter of 1977 rose in value by 4½ per cent to £899 million but fell in volume by 2 per cent following the strong rise in both value and volume of the previous quarter. The value of exports of medicinal and pharmaceutical products fell by 4 per cent in the first quarter, and rose by only 19 per cent in the year between the first quarters of 1976 and 1977, half the rate of increase of total chemical exports.

Shipments of chemicals increased strongly in value to the Irish Republic, Italy and the Netherlands, while exports to Scandinavia were subdued. Elsewhere, deliveries to the USA rose sharply, as they did to India.

The value of metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures dispatched in the first quarter, at £684 million, was 4½ per cent higher than in the previous quarter, with a rise also in the volume of shipments. The value of exports of iron and steel rose by 6½ per cent in this period, while shipments of non-ferrous metals were virtually unchanged.

Exports of textiles again increased in both value and volume in the first quarter, though not so sharply as in the previous three quarters, rising by 7½ per cent in value and by 2 per cent in volume. The value of other manufactured goods (which includes precious stones) rose by 9½ per cent to £1,527 million, an increase to which price and volume contributed broadly equally. The value of exports of diamonds again increased, particularly to Switzerland and the United States. Exports of clothing and footwear rose by 9½ per cent, after the strong rise of 19 per cent in the last quarter of 1976. Professional and scientific instruments rose strongly by 12 per cent in value, the increase being widely spread among markets although exports to France and the Netherlands rose markedly.

Exports of non-manufactured goods rose by 12 per cent in value in the first quarter of 1977. In this category, exports of food, beverages and tobacco increased by 7 per cent in value and by 2½ per cent in volume. Within this commodity group, exports of beverages (mainly whisky) increased by 14 per cent in value. Basic material exports rose by 8 per cent in value and by 5 per cent in volume in the first quarter continuing the strong improvement of the fourth quarter of 1976. Shipments of fuels again rose sharply in value by 21 per cent to a level double that of a year earlier. There was a sharp increase in volume of 11 per cent.

Exports of crude oil at £162 million were nearly twice their value in the final quarter of 1976. Around one-quarter of crude oil shipments went to the USA, and about one-sixth to each of the Netherlands and West Germany.

Commodity pattern of imports
(see tables 9, 11, 12 and 15 and note 9)

In the first quarter of 1977 the value of imports was £8,954 million, seasonally adjusted on an overseas trade statistics basis, 2½ per cent

TABLE 13 Exports: Areas¶ (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob

	1976					1977	Percentage change
	Year	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	Q1/Q4
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES	18,490	4,063	4,544	4,690	5,193	5,483	+5½
EEC	9,174	1,958	2,246	2,342	2,628	2,763	+5
Belgium and Luxembourg	1,401	301	343	352	406	429	+5½
Denmark	655	152	157	164	183	185	+1
France	1,710	366	412	455	477	496	+4
Irish Republic	1,247	285	303	317	342	377	+10
Italy	826	173	201	220	233	253	+8½
Netherlands	1,500	312	354	375	459	489	+6½
West Germany	1,834	388	447	477	522	568	+8½
REST OF W. EUROPE	4,275	914	1,053	1,061	1,247	1,297	+4
Finland	289	66	67	71	85	83	−2½
Norway	474	98	123	115	138	130	−5½
Spain	368	81	90	94	103	116	+13
Sweden	1,045	217	250	259	319	310	−3
Switzerland	1,000	234	248	238	281	358	+27
NORTH AMERICA	3,098	691	773	797	837	886	+6
USA	2,449	537	612	640	661	714	+8
Canada	628	151	156	153	169	168	−1
OTHER	1,943	501	472	490	481	537	+12
Australia	688	173	159	176	180	198	+10
Japan	359	83	82	89	105	118	+12
New Zealand	251	62	66	64	59	71	+20
South Africa	645	177	164	167	138	145	+5½
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES	6,505	1,504	1,558	1,622	1,821	1,884	+3½
LATIN AMERICA	759	183	185	192	199	183	−8½
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	2,896	671	692	715	819	878	+7
Iran	511	123	132	127	128	169	+32
Israel	249	62	61	54	73	57	−22
Saudi Arabia	400	69	85	108	138	129	−6½
REST	2,850	651	682	715	802	824	+2½
Brazil	174	40	39	47	48	42	−12
India	207	47	49	53	59	68	+16
Nigeria	774	166	188	198	222	232	+5
CENTRALLY PLANNED ECONOMIES	727	175	183	182	187	201	+7½
Poland	189	47	44	50	48	55	+14
Soviet Union	240	58	66	55	61	55	−10
TOTAL	25,778	5,740	6,310	6,500	7,228	7,562	+4½
of which							
OIL EXPORTING COUNTRIES	3,143	695	751	786	911	997	+9½

¶ See notes 2 and 5.

TABLE 14 Exports: Commodity classes¶ (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob

	1976					1977	Percentage change
	Year	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	Q1/Q4
FOOD, BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	1,694	397	406	419	472	504	+7
Food and live animals	1,036	237	254	255	290	305	+5
Beverages and tobacco	658	160	151	164	183	200	+9½
Beverages	524	131	119	131	143	163	+14
BASIC MATERIALS	776	164	182	197	232	251	+8
Crude materials	739	157	175	189	218	236	+8
Textile fibres	261	54	59	64	84	87	+3
FUELS	1,255	240	286	333	395	479	+21
MANUFACTURES	21,347	4,792	5,229	5,414	5,913	6,169	+4½
Machinery and transport equipment	10,126	2,347	2,514	2,530	2,735	2,764	+1
Non-electric machinery	5,058	1,206	1,238	1,254	1,361	1,377	+1
Electric machinery	2,004	452	503	500	549	574	+4½
Road motor vehicles	2,224	510	553	561	601	623	+4
Other transport equipment*	840	190	203	200	246	203	−18
Chemicals	3,047	670	733	783	860	899	+4½
Chemical elements and compounds	1,046	223	260	272	291	307	+5½
Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	453	105	104	113	130	125	−4
Plastic materials	531	115	130	136	150	153	+2
Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	2,347	483	575	635	653	684	+4½
Iron and steel	825	170	206	219	229	245	+6½
Non-ferrous metals	722	133	173	205	212	213	+½
Miscellaneous metal manufactures	800	183	192	204	221	231	+4½
Textiles	934	204	223	240	267	287	+7½
Other	4,892	1,063	1,228	1,204	1,397	1,527	+9½
Clothing and footwear	481	99	118	120	143	157	+9½
Instruments	629	142	155	162	169	189	+12
MISCELLANEOUS	707	175	170	178	183	193	+5½
TOTAL	25,778	5,740	6,310	6,500	7,228	7,562	+4½

¶ See note 2. * Not seasonally adjusted.

TABLE 15 Imports: Commodity classes¶ (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million cif

	1976					1977	Percentage change
	Year	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	Q1/Q4
FOOD, BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	4,993	1,070	1,250	1,266	1,406	1,490	+6
Food and live animals	4,504	972	1,120	1,133	1,279	1,343	+5
Meat and meat preparations	839	183	203	208	244	254	+4
Dairy produce and eggs	505	121	112	105	167	84	−50
Cereals and animal feeding stuff	920	172	258	227	264	252	−4½
Fruit and vegetables	948	214	249	239	246	287	+17
Other food and live animals	1,292	273	302	355	363	465	+28
Beverages and tobacco	489	99	129	133	127	147	+15
Beverages	252	50	62	70	71	74	+5½
Tobacco	237	49	67	67	55	73	+33
FUELS	5,652	1,301	1,346	1,493	1,511	1,390	−8
INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS	11,296	2,418	2,735	2,904	3,239	3,376	+4
Basic materials	3,223	678	760	856	929	988	+6½
Crude materials	3,022	632	714	809	866	907	+4½
Wood, lumber and cork	585	121	137	162	166	164	−1
Pulp and waste paper	464	102	119	129	114	124	+9
Textile fibres	438	93	98	109	138	132	−4
Metal ores	686	138	163	196	189	211	+12
Chemicals	2,000	431	486	515	568	629	+11
Chemical elements and compounds	875	184	210	232	249	273	+10
Plastic materials	463	99	113	115	136	146	+7
Other semi-manufactures	6,073	1,309	1,489	1,532	1,743	1,758	+1
Wood and cork manufactures	290	58	68	80	84	89	+6
Paper and paperboard	827	173	196	224	235	250	+6½
Textiles	911	204	228	220	259	278	+7½
Non-metallic mineral manufactures	1,385	320	327	335	404	416	+3
Iron and steel	966	201	230	238	297	226	−24
Non-ferrous metals	1,039	217	251	264	307	314	+2
Miscellaneous metal manufactures	415	93	108	101	114	118	+4
FINISHED MANUFACTURES	8,860	1,821	2,151	2,344	2,543	2,666	+5
Machinery	4,637	909	1,180	1,255	1,293	1,289	− ½
Electrical machinery	1,383	293	323	364	404	424	+5
Non-electrical machinery	3,254	616	857	892	889	865	−2½
Road motor vehicles	1,398	265	325	392	416	474	+14
Other transport equipment*	354	95	99	64	96	124	+30
Other finished manufactures	2,471	551	579	628	713	769	+8
Clothing and footwear	849	191	207	212	239	256	+7
Instruments	575	124	131	147	172	178	+3½
MISCELLANEOUS	412	96	117	107	92	105	+15
TOTAL	31,213	6,681	7,678	8,110	8,744	8,954	+2½

¶ See note 2. * Not seasonally adjusted.

higher than in the previous quarter. During this period, imports of food, beverages and tobacco rose by 6 per cent in value terms largely the result of higher prices. The value of deliveries of food and live animals was 5 per cent higher with disparate movements within the group. Imports of dairy produce and eggs fell by 50 per cent, the result of lower deliveries of butter and cheese. Deliveries of cereals and animal feeding stuffs were 4½ per cent lower by value, again largely the result of a fall in the volume of arrivals, notably of wheat and maize. In contrast, imports of fresh fruit and vegetables rose by 17 per cent, with increased volume and price both contributing. Deliveries of other food and live animals showed the greatest individual increase, rising by 28 per cent in value terms, largely reflecting higher volumes of cocoa and coffee, as manufacturers built up their stocks in anticipation of the price rises which occurred during the quarter. Imports of beverages and tobacco rose by 15 per cent, chiefly the result of an increase in tobacco imports as arrivals recovered from the low level in the previous quarter.

Imports of fuels fell by 8 per cent, with lower volumes outweighing higher prices. Imports of crude oil were reduced in total to the lowest quarterly level of the 1970s as a rise in the volume of deliveries from Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Nigeria and the Soviet Union was more than offset by substantial falls in arrivals from Iran, Kuwait, Libya and Iraq.

Imports of industrial materials rose by 4 per cent to reach £3,376 million, with higher prices contributing slightly more than higher volumes. Among basic materials which rose in value terms by 6½ per cent, a higher volume of deliveries accounted for most of the increases in the value of imports of pulp and waste paper (9 per cent) and metal ores (12 per cent). In contrast imports of textile fibres fell by 4 per cent with lower volumes contributing, while the value of deliveries of timber remained at around the level reached in the previous quarter.

Imports of chemicals rose by 11 per cent with rises of 10 per cent and 7 per cent in deliveries of chemical elements and compounds and plastic materials respectively; in both cases the result of higher volumes. Although arrivals of other semi-manufactures in total rose by only 1 per cent, there were widespread movements among the individual commodities. Deliveries of textiles rose by 7½ per cent, largely due to higher volumes, particularly of woven fabrics. Increased volume also contributed to the 6 per cent rise in the value of imports of wood and cork manufactures. In contrast the 6½ per cent increase in value terms in deliveries of paper and paperboard was mainly due to higher prices. However, the increases in imports of these items were offset by a sharp fall in the value of iron and steel imports, which fell by 24 per cent, almost entirely due to a fall in volume as arrivals fell back from the exceptionally high level of the previous quarter.

Deliveries of finished manufactures rose by 5 per cent in the first quarter to reach £2,666 million. Although machinery imports remained unchanged during this period, within the group the value of deliveries of electrical machinery rose by 5 per cent, while those of non-electrical machinery fell by 2½ per cent. The fall in imports of non-electrical machinery in part reflected lower deliveries of North Sea production installations although arrivals of specialised and office machinery were also reduced. Imports of road motor vehicles rose by 14 per cent, with increased deliveries of motor cars, particularly from West Germany and Japan, and motor cycles. Imports of other transport equipment were 30 per cent higher, largely due to the arrival of three large aircraft.

Imports of consumer goods rose by 7 per cent, reflecting not only the increase in imports of motor cars, but also rises in imports of television sets, clothing and footwear. Imports of capital goods were 2 per cent lower than in the previous quarter, reflecting the fall in machinery imports, while imports of other finished manufactures rose by 10 per cent.

Sources of imports (see tables 10 and 16 and note 9)

In the first quarter of 1977 the value of imports from the EEC rose by 3 per cent to reach £3,343 million. There were however contrasting movements in imports from the member countries. Greater deliveries of footwear and non-electrical machinery contributed to the 6½ per cent rise in imports from Italy. Arrivals from France were 4½ per cent higher reflecting greater deliveries of cereals, sugar, chemicals and non-electrical machinery while increased shipments of cars and chemicals contributed to the 4 per cent rise in imports from West Germany. Imports from Denmark increased by 5 per cent, a continuation of the gradual rising trend experienced in the last two years. Arrivals from the Irish Republic rose only slightly. In contrast imports from the Netherlands and Belgium and Luxembourg fell by 3 per cent with lower deliveries of iron and steel contributing in both cases; other factors were lower cereal imports from Belgium and Luxembourg and a drop in imports of butter from the Netherlands.

Imports from the rest of western Europe, at £1,287 million, were

TABLE 16 Imports: areas¶ (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

Seasonally adjusted values

£ million cif

	1976					1977	Percentage change Q1/Q4
	Year	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES	22,323	4,735	5,491	5,759	6,338	6,533	+3
EEC	11,396	2,436	2,887	2,828	3,245	3,343	+3
Belgium and Luxembourg	1,300	249	304	338	409	397	−3
Denmark	705	168	167	179	191	201	+5
France	2,091	428	612	488	563	589	+4½
Irish Republic	1,008	221	243	242	302	306	+1
Italy	1,106	232	255	286	333	355	+6½
Netherlands	2,428	570	601	571	686	665	−3
West Germany	2,757	579	663	701	816	847	+4
REST OF W. EUROPE	4,584	987	1,083	1,231	1,283	1,287	+½
Finland	562	118	143	144	157	151	−4
Norway	623	115	131	220	156	136	−13
Sweden	1,188	239	287	335	327	328	–
Switzerland	963	230	219	225	288	281	−2
NORTH AMERICA	4,219	882	1,023	1,122	1,191	1,268	+6½
USA	3,044	650	731	804	858	933	+8½
Canada	1,160	229	289	313	328	329	–
OTHER	2,124	430	498	578	619	635	+2½
Australia	394	77	91	99	127	88	−30
Japan	796	168	188	218	223	264	+18
New Zealand	321	61	73	85	102	89	−13
South Africa	613	122	154	167	170	202	+19
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES	7,725	1,697	1,833	2,091	2,104	2,150	+2
LATIN AMERICA	705	148	180	183	193	207	+7
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	4,095	919	904	1,129	1,143	1,037	−9
Iran	1,049	229	257	267	296	296	–
Kuwait	587	107	128	147	205	129	−37
Saudi Arabia	978	227	203	262	286	270	−5½
REST	2,925	629	749	779	768	905	+18
Nigeria	317	76	92	91	59	91	+55
CENTRALLY PLANNED ECONOMIES	1,133	277	301	274	282	325	+15
Soviet Union	667	190	180	152	145	205	+41
TOTAL	31,213	6,661	7,678	8,110	8,744	8,954	+2½
of which							
OIL EXPORTING COUNTRIES	4,210	933	964	1,179	1,135	1,027	−9½

¶ See notes 2 and 5.

virtually unchanged. The absence of arrivals of North Sea oil production installations in the first quarter is reflected in the 13 per cent fall in imports from Norway and the 4 per cent reduction in imports from Finland. In the latter case the absence of such items was partly offset by increased arrivals of paper and paperboard reflecting higher prices. Imports from Switzerland fell by 2 per cent largely the result of a reduction in shipments of non-metallic mineral manufactures, (mainly diamonds). The value of imports from Sweden was unchanged as increased arrivals of paper and paperboard were offset by a decrease in deliveries of non-electrical machinery.

Imports from north America rose by 6½ per cent to £1,268 million, with higher imports of aircraft from the USA being a major factor, together with increased arrivals of chemicals and non-electrical machinery, in the 8½ per cent increase in the value of imports from that country while those from Canada were unchanged.

Within other developed countries which in total increased by 2½ per cent to £635 million, imports from South Africa increased by 19 per cent, reflecting greater arrivals of non-metallic mineral manufactures (mainly precious stones), and those from Japan by 18 per cent, with increased shipments of cars and motor cycles contributing. In contrast imports from Australia and New Zealand both fell sharply, by 30 per cent and 13 per cent respectively, from the high level of the previous quarter. In the case of Australia a reduction in lead imports was a significant factor.

Arrivals from the developing countries at £2,150 million, were 2 per cent higher than in the previous quarter. Imports from Latin America increased by 7 per cent reflecting rises in both the quantity and price of coffee shipments. Arrivals from the Middle East and north Africa, which includes many of the oil exporting countries, fell by 9 per cent as a result of a reduction in the volume of crude oil imports. Imports from Saudia Arabia fell by 5½ per cent while those from Kuwait, which were exceptionally high in the previous quarter, fell by 37 per cent. Among imports from the rest of the developing countries which in total increased by 18 per cent, reflecting increased prices for coffee, cocoa and tea, imports from Nigeria recovered from the low level of the previous quarter as a result of greater shipments of crude oil and cocoa.

Imports from the centrally planned economies increased by 15 per cent to £325 million, all the increase occuring in arrivals from the Soviet Union which rose by 41 per cent, reflecting greater deliveries of petroleum and petroleum products.

Notes

1 Trade figures on a balance of payments basis. The seasonally adjusted import and export figures on a balance of payments basis are obtained by making various adjustments to the seasonally adjusted figures derived from those recorded in the monthly *Overseas Trade Statistics*. These adjustments are summarised in table 1. Some are valuation adjustments; the principal of these is the deduction from the import figure of freight and insurance costs. The other adjustments relate to coverage. Included under this heading are adjustments to bring in items not in the trade statistics (for example on the import side ships built and delivered abroad direct to UK owners) and to remove items which are in the trade statistics (mainly returned goods and goods for processing and repair), where no change of ownership is involved. In addition adjustments are made from time to time to the level of exports to take account of variations in the quality of recording as revealed by the regular monitoring of the accuracy of the export figures (as described in an article in *Trade and Industry*, 15 February 1973). All these adjustments are described in greater detail in the annual 'Pink Book' *United Kingdom Balance of Payments 1965-75* (table 4 and pp 59-62) and in an article in the issue of *Trade and Industry* dated 4 November 1970.

2 The adjustments described at note 1 have been made for the quarterly totals of exports and imports, for the main area analysis of trade (table 3) and for trade in petroleum and petroleum products (table 4). They cannot be estimated for the other commodity analysis of trade nor for individual countries. The values of total trade and the main components of exports and imports in tables 5, 6, 9, 10, 13-16 are on the *Overseas Trade Statistics* basis and correspond with the totals given in the first columns of table 1. Comments on total trade and in the section headed 'Area Analysis of the Visible Trade Balance' relate to figures on a balance of payments basis. Detailed analysis of imports and exports on an area and commodity basis relates to the figures on an *Overseas Trade Statistics* basis in tables 5, 6, 9, 10, 13-16. The main components of trade are seasonally adjusted independently from the totals and in consequence do not always add exactly to the seasonally adjusted totals.

3 Visible balance. The visible balance is the difference between the import and export figures on a balance of payments basis obtained as described in note 1 above.

4 Timing. The figures for exports relate to documents received in the Statistical Office of HM Customs and Excise up to a few days before the end of the calendar month. On average export documents arrive at the Customs Statistical Office within a fortnight of the shipment of goods, so that the documents relate to goods passing through the ports in the month ending about the middle of the calendar month to which they are attributed. The figures for imports relate to documents received at the Customs Statistical Office up to the third working day after the end of the month. Importers are usually required to present their documents before they can obtain customs clearance and remove the goods. Thus the import statistics correspond closely to movements through the ports during the calendar month to which they are attributed.

5 Definition of areas. The areas used in table 3 of this article comprise the following countries:

EEC – Belgium, Denmark, France, Irish Republic, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands and West Germany.

Rest of western Europe – Andorra, Austria, Continental Shelf (foreign part), Faroe Islands, Finland, Gibraltar, Greece, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Malta, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Vatican City and Yugoslavia.

North America – Canada, Puerto Rico, USA, Greenland, St Pierre and Miquelon.

Other developed countries – Australia, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa.

Oil exporting countries – Abu Dhabi, Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei, Dubai, Ecuador, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sharjah etc., Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela.

Rest of the world – All other countries.

The areas used in tables 5, 10, 13 and 16 comprise the following countries: EEC, rest of western Europe, north America, other developed countries, oil exporting countries as above.

Latin America – Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canal Zone of Panama, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras (not British), Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Middle East and north Africa – Abu Dhabi, Algeria, Bahrain, Cyprus, Dubai, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sharjah etc., Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, North Yemen, South Yemen, Canary Islands, Ceuta and Melilla.

Centrally planned economies – Albania, Bulgaria, China, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, North Korea, Outer Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Soviet Union and Vietnam.

Other developing countries – All other countries.

6 The invisible balance (services and other current transactions) covers the following items: government services and transfer payments; all other services including sea and air transport, travel and banking and financial transactions; net overseas income in the form of interest, profits and dividends; and private transfers.

7 Trade in petroleum and petroleum products. Trade in petroleum and petroleum products (table 4) accounts for almost all the trade in fuels, section 3 of SITC(R) which is included in tables 6, 9, 14, and 15. Import and export figures are shown for crude oil and for the rest of the division which includes petroleum partly refined for further refining and petroleum products (eg motor spirit, lamp oil, and white spirit, distillate fuels, residual fuel oils, lubricating oils and greases, etc.).

The figures of value and tonnage of crude oil imports in table 4 are based on reports to HM Customs and Excise and have been seasonally adjusted with the same seasonal and length of month factors as have been used for the fuels totals in tables 9 and 15. These figures cannot be directly compared with the monthly import tonnages originating from the Department of Energy which are published in the *Monthly Digest of Statistics* and the *Digest of Energy*

Statistics, as the latter are based on reports received directly from the oil industry and are unadjusted. Over longer periods the differences between the two sources are largely resolved.

For imports the average value of crude oil per ton has been obtained by dividing the value of crude oil imports by the tonnage and will reflect not only changes in price but also changes in the commodity mix of imports due, for example, to differing qualities of crude oil.

The figures of value of crude oil exports have been seasonally adjusted with the same seasonal and length of month factors as have been used for the fuels totals in tables 6 and 14. These figures include oil which has been re-exported.

8 Unit value and volume indices. A brief description of the way in which the index numbers on a balance of payments basis are calculated was published in the article giving unit value and volume index numbers for March 1971 in *Trade and Industry* of 26 May 1971. An article was published in *Trade and Industry* on 11 October 1973 introducing the series of import and export unit value and volume indices with 1970 = 100. The purpose of the index numbers is to measure the changes in price and volume of our imports and exports. Index numbers can be constructed in various ways, and the series used here are of the fixed base type. Thus, the unit value indices measure changes in 'price' of a fixed selection of trade headings (although in practice it is not specific prices which are measured but the average price of all the varying transactions taking place each month in the selected headings, reflecting different kinds of goods covered by each heading and different markets or sources of supply). Correspondingly, the volume indices measures, for the same selection of trade headings, what the change in the value of trade would be assuming no changes in the prices charged from those in the base year. Because the indices are base weighted, they do not take account of the changes in the pattern of trade since the base year, and consequently their product does not precisely account for the change in the value of trade expressed as an index. In practice, though, since the composition of trade changes little between consecutive months, the product of the changes in the indices will often approximate to the change in the value of trade between one month and the next. A full methodological article about the 1970-based series of indices was published in the April 1975 issue of *Economic Trends*. Adjustments have been made to the import volume index to include North Sea oil production installations, however no changes have been made to the base-weighted unit value index.

9 Seasonally adjusted import figures for December and January. Difficulties of allowing fully in the seasonal adjustment procedure for the effects of the 1976/77 Christmas/new year holiday period have distorted the quarterly comparison of the imports value and volume statistics and hence of both the visible and current balance.

Monthly Review of External Trade Statistics

Each month EcS5 Division of the Department of Trade produces, primarily for internal purposes, a document entitled the 'Monthly Review of External Trade Statistics'. It is intended to be a convenient, reasonably comprehensive, and up-to-date source of information on various aspects of overseas trade. The review is divided into three sections; the first is a commentary containing short articles on topics of current interest, including an analysis of the latest month's trade figures; the second section consists of 25 charts with accompanying texts on facing pages covering much of the material in the third section, which comprises 83 tables covering statistics of visible trade, UK exports and imports by area and commodity (with figures of value, volume and unit value), trade by commodity group, UK shares of trade in various markets and commodity groups, and ECGD statistics. There are also tables of commodity prices, relative export prices, and the sterling exchange rate. The document is updated each month and is available at the end of the month. It is felt that it may have a wider interest than its present circulation, and copies are being made available through the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, price £3. For further details about the review contact the EcS5A branch of the Department of Trade (01-215 3155).

The seasonally adjusted imports figures for December are probably understated and those for January correspondingly overstated. Exports are probably little affected.

Overseas Trade Statistics. Detailed particulars of United Kingdom imports and exports for March (with cumulative totals) were published in April* and further analyses of the figures will be found in the tables on external trade in the *Monthly Digest of Statistics*†.

Telephone inquiries concerning this article should be referred to: 01-215 3131 – value data; and 01-215 3466 – indices.

* *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom*, March 1977, published by HMSO, price £6.50 (annual subscription £93.60).

† *Monthly Digest of Statistics*, published by HMSO, price £1.95 (annual subscription including supplement of Definitions and postage, £27.86).

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Economic indicators of the industrial countries

The following tables have been prepared for the convenience of users who do not have access to the sources themselves. International publications (as indicated) have been used, supplemented, where available, by later reports, denoted – (e). The form of presentation adopted – indicators by subject – is for convenience only, and it must not be assumed that the indicators in the same table for different countries are strictly comparable. An attempt has been made to indicate major differences of definition, but the coverage and methods of collection vary considerably; this is partly due to different administrative procedures in various countries. Fuller details may be obtained from the sources indicated, and from the national publications of the countries concerned. Exchange rates are those used in the basic data

TABLE 1 Industrial production (excluding construction) seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium	Luxembourg	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom	EEC[1]	Canada	United States	Japan	OECD
Weights in total	1.3	0.1	6.0	13.2	0.2	4.4	1.5	6.4	33.1	3.6	43.3	11.9	
1971	103	98.7	104	101.8	105	99.9	106	100.1	102	105.8	102.0	102.8	101
1972	109	102.8	112	105.7	109	104.4	111	102.4	106	113.1	111.0	110.2	108
1973	116	115.1	120	112.9	119	114.5	119	110.8	114	122.5	120.4	127.4	119
1974	120	119.1	123	111.3	123	119.0	123	107.9	115	126.9	119.9	123.5	119
1975	108	93.0	112	105.0	115	108.5	117	102.6	107	121.0	109.3	110.4	110
1976	119	98.8	123	112.8	127	121.0	125	104.5	115	126.6	120.4	125.2	119
1975 1st quarter	111	101.4	114	105.5	115	110.2	118	106.3	109	121.3	105.0	106.5	108
2nd quarter	107	92.5	111	103.2	114	107.0	115	101.5	105	120.6	106.0	109.8	108
3rd quarter	105	82.6	110	103.0	115	105.9	113	100.6	105	120.1	111.8	112.2	110
4th quarter	110	94.4	114	108.2	117	110.8	121	101.8	109	121.6	114.4	112.9	113
1976 1st quarter	115	97.5	121	111.2	123	116.6	121	103.3	113	125.2	117.8	119.4	117
2nd quarter	121	104.1	122	112.3	125	120.7	123	104.5	115	127.3	120.0	125.7	119
3rd quarter	118	95.9	126	112.3	129	122.7	126	104.0	115	127.0	121.5	127.1	120
4th quarter	122	98.1	125	114.3	131	127.6	127	105.2	117	127.2	122.2	128.3	122
1977 1st quarter		99.8 (e)	128.7 (e)	116.4 (e)		130.4 (e)	125 (e)	107.0	119		123.8 (e)	129.4 (e)	123 (e)
1975 July	101	89.7	110	98.6		110.3	109	100.9	103	119.7	105.2	113.7	109
August	100	60.6	110	103.7		97.9	111	99.1	103	121.0	107.0	111.9	110
September	108	96.4	111	106.4		110.1	114	101.2	106	120.1	108.9	113.8	112
October	107	89.2	113	107.2		111.1	116	102.0	108	119.5	113.0	114.2	112
November	110	97.6	113	108.7		113.0	122	102.3	109	122.3	114.6	111.8	113
December	109	97.7	117	109.4		107.6	120	101.0	109	123.0	115.3	114.0	114
1976 January	112	96.4	120	110.8		112.0	120	102.4	111	124.2	116.6	116.5	115
February	114	98.4	120	111.8		118.8	120	104.1	115	125.2	118.1	119.0	117
March	117	97.7	122	110.2		119.0	122	103.4	113	126.3	118.8	122.7	118
April	120	100.9	122	112.3		118.6	124	104.4	114	126.7	119.1	126.8	119
May	119	108.6	122	111.2		124.1	121	106.9	114	128.3	120.2	124.3	119
June	121	102.9	123	113.3		119.5	124	102.1	115	126.7	120.7	125.9	120
July	114	93.5	124	109.3		122.7	124	103.9	113	126.3	121.2	128.7	119
August	121	86.3	124	112.7		118.9	125	103.0	115	127.5	121.8	126.6	120
September	121	107.9	129	115.0		126.4	129	105.1	117	127.1	121.3	126.0	121
October	122	104.9	123	117.3		122.8	126	105.9	117	126.0	121.0	126.2	121
November	120	95.6	127	113.5		128.2	125	106.5	117	127.3	122.3	129.4	121
December	123	93.7	124	112.1		131.7	129	106.2	117 (e)	128.4	123.5	129.4	123
1977 January	122	102.5	130	120.0		130.1	128	107.2	120	129.7	122.4	129.5	123 (e)
February	121	45.2	127	115.2		130.6	124	106.8	118	129.8	123.7	128.6	123 (e)
March		100.9 (e)	129 (e)	114 (e)		130.4 (e)	123	107.2	118		125.3	129.8 (e)	123 (e)
April											126.3 (e)	131.0 (e)	
% change latest three months													
On previous three months	0.8	1.5	3.2	1.9	1.6	2.2	−1.3	0.8	1.4	2.0	1.9	0.3	1.1
On a year earlier	9.3	2.2	6.6	4.9	12.0	11.8	3.6	3.6	5.0	4.2	5.4	5.7	5.4

[1] Excluding Denmark.
Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

TABLE 2 Gross domestic production

Indices 1970 = 100

	Canada†	United States†	Japan†	Italy	France	F.R. of Germany†	United Kingdom
1971	106	103	107	101	105	103	102
1972	113	109	117	104	111	106	104
1973	122	115	129	111	118	112	110
1974	125	113	127	115	121	112	110
1975	126	111	130	111	119	109	108
1976	131	118	138	117		115	109
1973 1st quarter	119	114	126	106	116	112	110
2nd quarter	120	115	129	110	117	112	110
3rd quarter	121	115	129	113	118	112	110
4th quarter	124	116	129	115	120	112	110
1974 1st quarter	126	114	125	116	122	114	106
2nd quarter	124	114	126	117	122	113	110
3rd quarter	125	113	128	115	123	113	112
4th quarter	124	111	128	112	119	111	111
1975 1st quarter	124	108	128	111	117	108	109
2nd quarter	125	109	129	110	118	108	107
3rd quarter	127	112	131	109	118	108	107
4th quarter	127	113	132	112	121	112	107
1976 1st quarter	131	116	136	115	125	115	109
2nd quarter	131	117	138	117	127	114	108
3rd quarter	132	118	139	118	128	115	108
4th quarter	131	119	140	119		117	110
1977 1st quarter		121					
% change latest quarter							
On previous quarter	−0.8	1.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	1.7	1.9
On a year earlier	3.1	4.3	6.1	6.3	8.5	4.5	2.8

† GNP at market prices.
Sources: OECD National Income Accounts; German FR, Bundesbank Reihe 4 UK, Central Statistical Office.

sources. The group of industrial countries is taken as comprising the members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) ie: western Europe, north America, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. Consumer prices apart, New Zealand is excluded from OECD totals in that insufficient information is available.

Summary

The growth of output in the industrial countries slowed down in the third quarter of 1976 following a rapid rise in the first half of the year, and picked up slightly in the fourth quarter, rising by 1¼ per cent. A similar rate appears to have been achieved in the first quarter of 1977. For the year as a whole industrial production rose by 9 per cent taking it above the level of 1974.

The value of world trade as a whole increased rapidly during the first three quarters of 1976. The strongest growth occurred outside the industrial area, although divergences became less marked in the third quarter. Throughout the first three quarters the OECD areas imports from the rest of the world grew faster than their imports from one another, while the opposite was apparent on the export side. Both the dollar value and volume of industrial countries' exports increased by around 10½ per cent in 1976, reaching new peaks. Imports, following the same pattern, after rising briskly during the second half of the year, increased by 14½ per cent in value and 13 per cent in volume. These developments brought about a worsening of the trade deficit.

Unemployment showed few signs of a sustained improvement in the first quarter of 1977. Unemployment in the industrial countries as a whole dropped in the first quarter of this year, mainly due to an improvement in the United States, but continued to increase in many countries. Monthly rates of increase in consumer price inflation accelerated during the early part of 1977. However, the average annual rate of inflation for the first quarter remained at around 8½ per cent, the same as recorded for 1976 as a whole.

United States

The economy grew strongly in the first quarter of 1977 despite the severe winter weather conditions. GNP rose by nearly 7 per cent and industrial production by 5½ per cent, both at annual rates. The volume of United States' exports rose by only 3 per cent in 1976 whilst imports increased by 21½ per cent. Imports continued to rise faster in the first quarter of this year – compared with the last quarter of 1976 the dollar value of imports increased by some 9 per cent, while exports were stagnant. The result of these developments was a seasonally adjusted merchandise trade deficit of over $6 billion, double the previous quarter's record deficit. Improved labour market conditions accompanied the strong recovery, though certain sectors were hindered by the bad weather. With February as the exception, unemployment rates have fallen in each successive month since last November, registering 7.3 per cent of the total labour force in the first quarter of this year, compared to 8 per cent in the last quarter of 1976. Annual rates of increase in consumer prices rose above the 6 per cent level recorded for 1976 as a whole in both February and March of this year, partly as a result of the winter's adverse effects on food prices.

Canada

Industrial production in Canada increased only marginally in the last quarter of 1976. For the year as a whole production increased by 4½ per cent compared with 1975, but was still below the previous annual peak of 1974. The value of both exports and imports fell in the final quarter of 1976, the fall in both the value and volume of exports being more pronounced. However, for the year as a whole export value increased by 13½ per cent and import volume by 7½ per cent. Unemployment in Canada has increased continually since the second

TABLE 3 Unemployment seasonally adjusted[7]

Numbers thousands

	Belgium[3]	Denmark[4]	France[1]	F.R. of Germany[1]	Ireland[3]	Italy[3]	Nether-lands[1]	United Kingdom[1 8]	Canada[3]	United States[3]	Japan[3]
1971	71	30	337	185	42	613	62	776	552	4,993	639
1972	87	30	380	246	48	696	108	885	562	4,840	730
1973	92	20	394	274	44	669	110	611	520	4,305	670
1974	105	45	498	583	48	560	135	600[5]	525	5,076	740
1975	177	103	840	1,074	75	654	195	929	697	7,830	1,000
1976	229	107	933	1,060	84	732	211	1,269[5]	736	7,288	1,080
1975 1st quarter	142	99	708	1,036	68	553	174	738	664	7,476	910
2nd quarter	170	103	829	1,040	74	727	191	847	698	8,087	962
3rd quarter	190	101	915	1,034	78	653	205	1,000	715	7,997	1,025
4th quarter	209	109	916	1,134	80	698	210	1,132	721	7,912	1,124
1976 1st quarter	210	109	907	1,280	82	625	208	1,223	705	7,151	1,067
2nd quarter	229	106	950	994	84	755	208	1,246	730	7,014	1,100
3rd quarter	240	104	951	933	85	780	221	1,308	752	7,439	1,102
4th quarter	237	115	932	1,007	83	775	206	n.a.	764	7,578	1,051
1977 1st quarter	243	127	973	1,166			194	1,330	822	7,068	1,026
1975 August	191	104	864	1,121	77		207	997	742	7,924	1,029
September	199	107	933	1,097	79		210	1,034	709	7,970	1,056
October	211	109	928	1,132	80		211	1,089	726	8,092	1,139
November	211	107	913	1,137	80		211	1,138	718	7,939	1,126
December	208	117	906	1,153	81		211	1,175	712	7,735	1,105
1976 January	206	114	900	1,186	81		207	1,211	681	7,290	1,092
February	208	110	901	1,328	82		212	1,232	719	7,136	1,066
March	216	105	921	1,181	82		206	1,227	705	7,027	1,043
April	221	101	929	1,098	84		204	1,234	749	7,040	1,080
May	228	99	953	959	85		207	1,250	719	6,860	1,108
June	238	99	967	931	83		213	1,257	723	7,143	1,112
July	238	105	950	954	85		217	1,294	761	7,426	1,117
August	244	103	962	950	86		225	1,309	745	7,506	1,120
September	237	105	941	912	84		220	1,319	750	7,384	1,068
October	230	113	935	952	83		214	1,305	769	7,564	1,093
November	244	111	931	987	83		207	n.a.	752	7,651	1,102
December	238	122	930	1,082	83		199	1,326	772	7,519	957
1977 January	239	125	945	1,229	81		196	1,338	780	6,958	997
February	239	132	972	1,194	80 (e)		193	1,331	829	7,183	1,030 (e)
March	250	125	1,003	1,075			192	1,321	856	7,064	1,051 (e)
April	252 (e)		1,039 (e)	1,039 (e)			188 (e)	1,323	870 (e)	6,750 (e)	
May								1,262			
Rate % in latest month[6]	9.4 (e)	112 (e)	5.4 (e)	4.4 (e)	12.0	3.9	5.0	5.3	8.1	7.3	1.9
% change latest three months											
On previous three months	2.8	10.4	7.4	0.3	−2.4	−0.6	−4.8	−2.2	10.9	−5.1	−2.3
On a year earlier	14.9	16.1	9.6	−8.3	Nil	11.0	−7.9	5.3	17.6	−0.9	−3.8

Unemployment data are defined and collected on different bases in different countries. The following notes indicate main variations preventing direct international comparison.

1 Registered unemployed (excluding school leavers): rate per cent of total employees
2 Insured unemployed: rate per cent of total insured population.
3 Labour force sample survey: rate per cent of total labour force.
4 Unemployment-insurance beneficiaries: rate per cent of total numbers insured.
5 Estimated in the absence of one month's figures.
6 Averaged over component months. Rates per cent relate to the last period for which unemployment figures are given.
7 Some seasonally adjusted data have been estimated from unadjusted material.
8 UK per cent changes are calculated with a non-rounded series.

Source: OECD Main Economic Indicators and *Department of Employment Gazette.*

quarter of 1976; rising from just over 7 per cent of the labour force to nearly 8 per cent in the first quarter of 1977.

Japan

The increase in industrial production, a marked feature of continuing Japanese economic recovery in the first and second quarters of 1976, slowed somewhat in the following three quarters. Similarly, the rate of growth in export value increased slightly from 3 per cent to 4 per cent between the third and fourth quarters of 1976, but remained considerably below that of the first quarter. Increases of around 20 per cent in both export value and volume were nearly double those recorded by the OECD countries as a whole in 1976 compared with 1975. Imports, following a substantial increase in the third quarter, slackened in the fourth, and for the year as a whole were around 12

TABLE 4 Earnings/wages per head in manufacturing

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark[1,2]	France	F.R. of Germany[3] †	Ireland[3]	Italy[2]	Netherlands[3]	Great Britain	Canada[3]	United States[4]	Japan[5] †
1971	111	115	110	111	116	112	112	111	109	106	114
1972	126	129	121	123	133	124	126	126	118	113	132
1973	147	153	138	135	159	154	143	143	128	121	163
1974	178	185	162	151	191	189	169	166	145	131	205
1975	210	223	185	165	246	239	192	209	168	143	229
1976	235	250	208	174		290	208	244	191	154	258
1973 1st quarter	140	137	129	131	145	137	137	134	123	118	148
2nd quarter	144	151	133	134	157	151	140	139	126	120	155
3rd quarter	149	160	138	137	164	161	146	144	129	122	162
4th quarter	154	168	144	140	168	168	148	150	133	124	174
1974 1st quarter	162	173	147	144	172	176	159	147	136	126	178
2nd quarter	173	185	155	151	188	184	167	159	141	129	203
3rd quarter	184	190	164	156	196	194	173	172	149	133	211
4th quarter	192	202	169	159	207	202	174	185	155	137	215
1975 1st quarter	201	211	173	159	222	225	184	194	161	140	224
2nd quarter	207	223	177	161	241	238	188	202	166	141	220
3rd quarter	213	226	187	165	255	245	196	215	170	144	235
4th quarter	221	235	190	170	265	249	197	226	175	147	235
1976 1st quarter	227	239	195	170	272	256	206	233	183	150	255
2nd quarter	232	249	204	174	280	277	206	242	190	152	252
3rd quarter	238	252	213	176		307	209	247	194	156	260
4th quarter	244	261	219	176		319	212	255	197	159	268
1977 1st quarter										162	
% change latest quarter											
On previous quarter	2.5	3.6	2.8	Nil	2.9	3.9	1.4	3.2	1.6	1.9	3.1
On a year earlier	10.4	11.1	15.3	3.5	16.2	28.1	7.6	12.8	12.6	8.0	14.0

† Seasonally adjusted.
[1] Including mining. [2] Earnings. [3] Hourly rates industry: males. [4] Gross hourly earnings per productive worker. [5] Monthly earnings in manufacturing: regular workers.
[6] Wages and salaries per employed person in industry, excluding construction, public gas and electricity undertakings. [7] Hourly-rates time average daily hours worked.
[8] Hourly earnings for firms employing 20 persons and over.
Sources: All countries 'OECD Main Economic Indicators', except German Federal Republic ('Monatsberiche der Deutschen Bundesbank', Reihe 4). Italy ('I.L.O. Yearbook' and 'M.E.I.') and Great Britain (*Department of Employment Gazette* and M.E.I.).

TABLE 5 Consumer prices All goods and services

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium	Luxembourg	Denmark	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom	EEC	Canada	United States	Japan	OECD
1971	104.3	104.7	106	105.3	105.3	108.9	104.8	107.5	109.4	106	102.9	104.3	106.1	105
1972	110.0	110.1	113	111.7	111.1	118.4	110.8	115.9	117.2	113	107.8	107.7	110.9	110
1973	117.7	116.8	123	119.9	118.8	131.8	122.4	125.2	128.0	122	116.0	114.4	124.5	119
1974	132.6	128.0	142	136.3	127.1	154.2	146.2	137.3	148.4	138	128.6	127.0	154.2	134
1975	149.6	141.7	156	152.2	134.7	186.4	171.3	151.3	184.4	157	142.5	138.6	172.4	150
1976	163.2	155.6	170	166.8	140.8	219.9	199.6	164.6	214.9	175	153.2	146.6	188.4	163
1975 1st quarter	143.9	136.3	152	147.0	132.0	177.7	164.9	145.8	166.9	150	137.1	135.0	166.4	144
2nd quarter	147.7	140.1	156	150.6	134.5	188.5	169.3	149.9	182.7	156	140.1	137.1	172.1	148
3rd quarter	151.1	143.1	158	153.9	135.5	187.1	172.9	152.9	190.8	160	144.9	140.1	173.6	151
4th quarter	155.4	147.3	157	157.3	136.7	192.2	178.1	156.3	197.3	163	147.9	142.3	177.7	155
1976 1st quarter	158.7	151.1	162	161.1	139.0	206.3	184.8	159.0	204.4	168	149.8	143.7	181.4	158
2nd quarter	161.8	154.5	168	164.8	141.1	219.1	196.5	164.3	211.9	173	152.1	145.5	187.7	161
3rd quarter	164.9	156.9	171	168.6	141.2	222.4	201.7	165.4	216.8	176	154.3	147.8	189.8	164
4th quarter	167.6	159.7	178	172.9	141.9	231.8	215.5	169.6	226.8	182	156.6	149.4	194.5	168
1977 1st quarter	170.9	163.4	180	175.6	144.6	240.7	225.2 (e)	170.8	238.2	188 (e)	159.9	152.1	198.8	172 (e)
1975 December	156.6	148.3	158	158.2	137.1		179.2	156.7	199.7	164	148.5	143.0	177.2	155
1976 January	158.0	150.5	159	159.9	138.2		181.1	157.5	202.3	166	149.3	143.3	180.4	157
February	158.5	151.3	160	161.0	139.2	206.3	185.1	159.0	204.9	168	149.8	143.7	181.6	158
March	159.5	151.6	167	162.4	139.7		188.8	160.5	206.0	170	150.4	144.0	182.3	159
April	161.0	153.8	167	163.8	140.6		193.8	163.9	210.0	172	151.0	144.6	187.2	160
May	162.2	154.7	169	164.9	141.1	219.1	197.7	164.5	212.3	174	152.3	145.5	187.7	161
June	162.4	154.9	169	165.6	141.5		198.6	164.5	213.4	174	153.0	146.3	188.1	162
July	163.7	156.1	169	167.2	140.9		199l6	163.7	213.8	175	153.6	147.1	189.1	163
August	164.4	157.3	170	168.4	141.4	222.4	201.8	165.4	216.8	176	154.3	147.8	187.6	164
September	166.5	157.5	174	170.2	141.4		205.2	167.2	219.7	178	155.0	148.4	192.6	165
October	166.9	158.7	176	171.8	141.5		211.1	169.5	223.7	181	156.1	149.0	193.8	167
November	167.5	159.7	178	173.2	141.8	231.8	215.7	169.7	226.8	182	156.6	149.4	193.8	167
December	168.4	160.8	179	173.8	142.5		218.6	169.7	229.8	184	157.1	149.9	195.8	169
1977 January	170.1	162.4	179	174.3	143.8		221.4	169.5	235.9	186	158.4	150.7	197.7	170
February	171.4	163.5	179	175.5	144.7	240.7	225.7	170.8	238.2	188	159.9	152.3	198.8	172
March	171.3	164.2	181	177.1	145.2		228.4 (e)	172.2	240.5	190 (e)	161.5	153.2	200.0	173 (e)
April	172.2	165.2			145.6			175.0	246.8		162.5	154.4		
% change														
latest month on same month a year earlier	7.0	7.4	8.4	9.1	3.6	16.7	21.0 (e)	6.8	17.5	11.8 (e)	7.6	6.8	9.7	8.8 (e)
latest three months on previous three months	1.8	2.1	1.1	1.6	1.7	3.8	4.7	1.8	4.8	3.1	2.5	2.2	2.2	2.4
on previous three months a year earlier	7.5	7.9	10.9	9.0	3.8	16.7	21.7	7.2	16.8	11.9	7.2	6.4	9.6	8.6

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

per cent higher than the corresponding level in 1975. The result of such trade developments was a merchandise trade balance surplus of $10 billion, twice the surplus of 1975. The surplus in the first quarter of 1976 already stands at $4 billion. The annual rate of consumer price inflation in the first quarter of 1977 was 10 per cent, slightly improved on the 10½ per cent annual rate for 1976 as a whole. Unemployment has remained at around 2 per cent since the second quarter of 1976.

FR of Germany

Following a period of stagnation in the second and third quarters economic recovery in Germany made a considerable improvement in the last quarter of 1976 and the first quarter of 1977. Industrial production increased by 2 per cent in each of these quarters, reaching new peaks. Both exports and imports (measured in US dollars) increased at faster rates than those of the industrial countries taken as a group in the fourth quarter of 1976, after increasing at around the

TABLE 6 World trade

Quarters or quarterly averages, seasonally adjusted — US $ thousand million

	Exports (fob) from			Imports (cif) into		
	World[1]	OECD	Rest of world	World[1]	OECD	Rest of world
1970	69.69	55.01	14.68	72.46	56.41	16.05
1971	78.15	61.51	16.64	81.12	62.68	18.44
1972	92.91	72.70	20.21	94.65	74.50	20.15
1973	131.88	99.72	32.16	132.38	102.71	29.67
1974	193.66	133.23	60.43	194.37	145.77	48.69
1975	199.36	141.95	57.41	202.25	146.60	55.65
1976		157.01			168.12	
1973 1st quarter	113.31	86.57	26.74	113.74	88.66	25.08
2nd quarter	124.86	95.29	29.57	125.10	97.65	27.45
3rd quarter	139.33	105.59	33.74	139.82	108.82	31.00
4th quarter	149.85	111.26	38.59	150.95	115.79	35.16
1974 1st quarter	176.22	118.94	57.28	168.21	129.17	38.04
2nd quarter	194.49	133.12	61.37	195.10	146.54	48.56
3rd quarter	199.71	137.90	61.81	203.95	152.91	51.04
4th quarter	203.47	142.23	61.24	208.93	153.19	55.74
1975 1st quarter	201.21	146.07	55.14	204.21	150.34	53.87
2nd quarter	196.94	140.85	56.09	198.33	143.44	54.89
3rd quarter	196.82	136.89	59.93	197.28	142.26	55.02
4th quarter	202.47	143.98	58.49	209.18	150.36	58.82
1976 1st quarter	208.78	147.45	61.33	216.04	155.02	61.02
2nd quarter	220.04	153.06	66.98	225.94	161.29	64.65
3rd quarter	231.50	160.51	70.99	240.70	172.89	67.81
4th quarter		167.63			183.26	
% change latest three months						
On previous three months	5.2	4.1	6.0	6.5	6.0	4.9
On a year earlier	17.6	16.0	18.5	22.0	21.9	23.2

[1] Excludes Centrally planned economies.
Sources: 'OECD Series "A" '. IMF International Financial Statistics.

TABLE 7 Industrial countries' trade

Quarters or quarterly averages, seasonally adjusted — US $ thousand million

	Exports (fob) to			Imports (cif)‡ from		
	World	OECD	Rest of† world	World	OECD	Rest of† world
1970	55.01	41.03	13.98	56.41	42.50	13.91
1971	61.51	45.89	15.62	62.68	47.29	15.39
1972	72.70	55.02	17.68	74.50	56.43	18.07
1973	99.72	74.57	25.15	102.71	76.24	20.47
1974	133.23	95.16	38.07	145.77	97.74	48.03
1975	141.95	96.07	45.88	146.60	99.75	46.85
1976	157.01			168.12		
1973 1st quarter	86.57	65.77	20.80	88.66	67.35	21.31
2nd quarter	95.29	71.49	23.80	97.65	73.10	24.55
3rd quarter	105.59	78.63	26.96	108.82	80.89	27.93
4th quarter	111.26	82.47	28.79	115.79	83.38	32.21
1974 1st quarter	118.94	87.26	31.68	129.17	88.34	40.83
2nd quarter	133.12	96.09	37.03	146.54	97.94	48.60
3rd quarter	137.90	97.70	40.20	152.91	101.13	51.78
4th quarter	142.25	99.27	42.98	153.19	102.30	50.88
1975 1st quarter	146.07	99.70	46.37	150.34	104.03	46.31
2nd quarter	140.85	94.30	46.55	143.44	98.62	44.82
3rd quarter	136.89	91.90	44.99	142.26	95.81	46.45
4th quarter	143.98	98.37	45.61	150.36	100.55	49.81
1976 1st quarter	147.45	103.07	44.38	155.22	104.93	50.09
2nd quarter	153.06	107.11	45.95	161.29	108.88	52.41
3rd quarter	160.51	111.88	49.13	172.89	114.09	58.80
4th quarter	167.03			183.26		
% change latest three months						
On previous three months	4.1	4.0	6.9	6.0	4.8	12.2
On a year earlier	16.0	21.2	9.2	21.9	19.1	26.6

† Includes goods for which no destination is given.
‡ Imports into Canada and the United States are valued fob.
Source: 'OECD Series "A" '.

TABLE 8 Exports (fob) Special trade[1], seasonally adjusted

US $ million

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark[2]	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland[2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom[2]	EEC	Canada	United States[2]	Japan[2]	OECD
1970	11,592	3,288	17,940	34,188	1,032	13,188	11,772	19,356	112.356	16.134	43,224	19,320	220,045
1971	12,081	3,609	20,592	39,009	1,308	15,177	13,953	23,356	128,084	17,676	44,211	23,994	246,037
1972	15,995	4,330	25,739	46,208	1,610	18,535	15,392	24,340	153,152	20,184	49,676	28,591	290,784
1973	22,416	6,120	35,952	67,440	2,124	22,236	23,952	28,862	210,684	25,200	71,316	36,936	398,880
1974	28,260	7,716	45,900	89,160	2,628	30,288	32,436	37,188	275,100	32,784	98,508	55,536	532,932
1975	28,812	8,712	52,212	90,024	3,216	34,824	34,440	43,056	295,992	32,304	107,652	55,752	567,804
1976	32,844	9,108	55,812	102,036	3,312	36,924	38,748	45,683	325,044	38,628	114,996	67,272	630,744
1975 1 quarter	7,731	2,172	13,434	23,481	783	8,685	8,823	11,105	76,542	8,022	27,114	14,781	146,070
2nd quarter	6,981	2,196	13,248	23,025	753	8,571	8,565	10,720	74,367	7,890	25,803	13,734	140,847
3rd quarter	6,540	2,073	12,591	21,279	798	8,646	8,052	10,234	70,488	7,842	27,171	13,344	136,887
4th quarter	7,305	2,243	12,939	22,329	834	8,943	9,009	10,858	74,763	8,220	27,837	14,130	143,982
1976 1st quarter	7,467	2,136	13,395	23,427	735	8,427	8,949	11,223	76,086	9,102	26,910	15,729	147,453
2nd quarter	7,701	2,223	13,893	24,441	820	8,919	8,733	11,220	78,183	9,555	28,668	16,443	153,063
3rd quarter	8,151	2,340	13,881	25,851	832	9,327	9,858	11,307	81,696	9,996	29,649	16,977	160,509
4th quarter	9,207	2,433	14,556	27,768	903	10,089	11,241	11,681	88,104	9,402	29,499	17,685	167,025
1977 1st quarter			15,557 (e)					12,667			29,498 (e)		
1975 November	2,632	724	4,315	7,764	290	3,182	3,095	3,356	25,591	2,709	9,527	4,467	48,479
December	2,324	711	4,414	7,392	246	2,916	3,037	3,562	24,785	2,857	9,376	4,849	48,651
1976 January	2,488	768	4,425	7,747	247	3,062	2,903	3,600	25,456	2,995	8,840	5,037	48,624
February	2,648	683	4,637	7,692	247	2,591	3,017	3,552	25,328	3,210	8,858	5,223	49,290
March	2,495	698	4,478	8,145	228	2,813	3,155	3,686	25,931	2,929	8,920	5,610	50,127
April	2,550	723	4,568	7,981	290	2,775	2,899	3,552	25,551	3,094	9,114	5,299	49,504
May	2,622	780	4,899	8,459	274	3,319	3,009	3,636	27,230	3,095	9,889	5,648	52,484
June	2,594	738	4,488	8,100	249	2,725	2,785	3,634	25,511	3,389	9,689	5,640	51,276
July	2,364	757	4,435	8,040	266	3,131	3,123	3,499	25,800	3,253	9,905	5,576	51,770
August	2,766	785	4,713	8,378	257	3,032	3,381	3,706	27,157	3,432	9,843	5,545	53,289
September	3,021	798	4,733	9,434	308	3,165	3,353	3,841	28,738	3,313	9,902	5,857	55,449
October	3,148	767	4,753	9,024	323	3,387	3,435	3,780	28,710	3,138	9,725	5,988	54,652
November	2,880	827	4,782	9,097	290	3,493	3,846	3,797	29,069	3,021	9,341	5,733	54,673
December	3,179	839	5,021	9,648	291	3,208	3,960	4,108	30,325	3,244	10,433	5,964	57,701
1977 January	3,032	855	5,175	9,285	309	3,517		4,233	30,406 (e)	3,308	9,599	6,083	57,999(e
February		816	5,058	9,147	323	3,300		4,160		3,351	9,808	6,496	
March			5,324 (e)					4,290			10,072 (e)		
April								4,516			9,970		
% change latest three months:													
On previous three months	1.7	4.9	6.9	1.9	0.2	−0.2	14.0	6.8	6.1	4.6	1.6	8.9	4.3
On a year earlier	22.1	16.1	14.9	23.0	24.7	17.0	23.0	20.2	18.4	9.3	11.0	26.7	16.9

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports.
[2] General trade.
Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade. All others: 'OECD Series "A" '.

same pace in the second and third quarters. Export and import volumes recovered strongly in the final quarter of last year, and for the year on a whole were 14 per cent and 17½ per cent above their respective 1975 levels. Germany continued to hold the lowest rate of consumer price inflation among the major industrial countries in the first quarter of 1977, at 4 per cent. On the other hand, conditions in the labour market have been less favourable. Unemployment rose from 4 per cent to 4½ per cent of total employees between the third and fourth quarters of 1976, and registered an estimated figure of 5 per cent in the first quarter of this year.

France

Industrial production, following stagnation in the third quarter and a sharp rise in the final quarter of 1976 is estimated to have risen by around 3 per cent in the first quarter of this year; reaching a level 6½ per cent higher than in the same period a year earlier. Imports, rising by 18½ per cent in value and 20½ per cent in volume terms grew nearly three times as fast as exports in 1976. As a result the merchandise trade account deficit quadrupled from $2.0 billion in 1975 to $8.6 billion in 1976. However, figures available showing trade in the first quarter of 1977 indicate that the value of exports

TABLE 9 **Imports (cif)** Special trade[1], seasonally adjusted

US $ million

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark[2]	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland[2]	Italy	Nether- lands	United Kingdom[2]	EEC	Canada	United States[2,3]	Japan[2]	OECD
1970	11,352	4,380	19,116	29,808	1,572	14,940	13,392	21,720	116,280	13,308	39,960	18,876	225,649
1971	12,390	4,476	21,261	34,356	1,838	16,026	15,159	23,897	129,403	15,460	45,633	19,716	250,717
1972	14,879	4,986	26,696	39,759	2,113	19,252	17,127	27,831	152,643	18,924	55,819	23,463	297,984
1973	21,936	7,704	37,380	54,492	2,784	27,816	24,360	38,872	215,232	23,304	69,120	38,316	410,820
1974	29,700	9,852	52,824	68,976	3,816	40,968	33,204	54,345	293,568	32,292	100,968	62,112	583,080
1975	30,708	10,332	54,240	74,208	3,804	38,364	35,148	53,608	300,048	33,960	96,936	57,864	587,376
1976	33,352	12,420	64,392	87,780	4,200	43,368	39,348	56,373	343,428	37,956	121,788	64,776	675,264
1975 1st quarter	7,467	2,424	13,902	18,552	981	9,471	9,240	14,229	76,083	8,568	24,813	14,832	150,342
2nd quarter	7,314	2,412	13,176	18,630	924	9,024	8,739	12,956	73,311	8,457	22,683	13,779	143,442
3rd quarter	6,945	2,478	12,879	17,982	903	9,381	8,202	13,175	71,949	8,337	24,030	14,337	142,257
4th quarter	7,614	2,841	14,277	19,128	1,008	10,410	9,039	13,104	77,517	8,556	25,410	14,964	150,357
1976 1st quarter	7,743	2,820	15,015	19,956	1,023	10,035	8,847	13,363	78,684	9,240	27,333	14,973	155,022
2nd quarter	7,986	2,958	15,399	20,775	975	10,578	9,444	13,874	82,146	9,630	29,295	15,300	161,292
3rd quarter	8,286	3,186	16,335	22,431	1,059	10,620	10,002	14,328	86,304	9,612	32,043	17,004	172,890
4th quarter	9,225	3,381	17,628	24,240	1,125	12,057	11,658	14,438	93,894	9,405	32,631	17,427	183,255
1977 1st quarter			17,653 (e)					15,344			35,512 (e)		
1975 November	2,605	978	4,897	6,307	357	3,637	3,203	4,367	26,349	2,907	8,555	4,792	50,654
December	2,565	991	4,786	6,562	345	3,676	3,116	4,439	26,478	2,848	8,555	5,221	50,833
1976 January	2,671	888	5,043	6,534	332	3,177	2,959	4,467	26,022	3,110	9,425	5,126	51,913
February	2,523	972	5,125	6,699	356	3,193	2,902	4,552	26,340	3,154	8,820	5,037	51,781
March	2,559	996	4,971	6,811	353	3,429	3,041	4,342	26,408	3,028	9,226	4,884	51,960
April	2,661	993	5,020	7,146	321	3,641	3,282	4,548	27,665	3,238	9,651	4,975	53,540
May	2,822	981	5,479	6,983	338	3,692	3,176	4,620	28,157	3,070	9,192	4,899	53,734
June	2,572	989	4,852	6,680	326	3,280	3,014	4,697	26,449	3,294	9,883	5,120	53,319
July	2,639	919	4,941	7,089	332	3,422	3,238	4,818	27,438	3,199	10,992	5,473	56,017
August	2,757	1,103	5,498	7,778	350	3,643	3,415	4,635	29,174	3,268	10,377	5,699	58,028
September	2,885	1,165	5,896	7,563	376	3,555	3,350	4,869	29,692	3,144	10,673	5,833	58,846
October	3,028	1,070	5,825	7,748	355	3,782	3,645	4,609	30,194	3,066	10,748	5,785	58,974
November	3,088	1,111	6,064	7,763	392	4,532	3,567	4,890	31,515	3,230	10,679	6,054	61,526
December	3,109	1,200	5,740	8,730	378	3,742	4,446	4,878	32,185	3,108	11,204	5,588	62,733
1977 January	3,346	1,099	6,053	8,349	463	3,870		5,527	33,107(e)	3,257	11,269	6,153	64,000(e)
February		1,030	5,725	7,818	417	3,994		4,879		3,329	11,674	5,661	
March			5,875 (e)					4,938			12,450		
April								5,176			12,595		
% change latest three months:													
On previous three months	10.1	−0.5	0.1	7.9	12.0	−2.2	16.7	−1.9	8.7	2.7	10.8	1.5	7.1
One year earlier	21.7	16.8	16.6	25.8	21.8	15.5	29.3	11.5	22.6	6.4	32.6	13.1	22.7

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. [3] fob.

Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade. All others: 'OECD Series "A" '.

TABLE 10 **Balance of payments on current account**

US $ million (unadjusted)

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Nether- lands	United Kingdom	EEC	Canada	United States	Japan
1970	715	−544	297	870	−189	762	−522	1,759	3,148	1,055	2,157	1,970
1971	844	−423	530	884	−190	1,575	−160	2,646	5,706	426	−1,323	5,797
1972	1,142	−59	297	775	−133	2,010	1,290	328	5,650	−384	−5,550	6,624
1973	1,158	−466	−691	4,301	−220	−2,515	2,339	−1,844	2,062	77	7,117	−112
1974	912	−979	−5,942	9,590	−708	−7,811	1,993	−7,905	−10,950	−1,518	2,308	−4,673
1975	688	−521	−2	3,859	−80 (e)	−540	1,595	−3,633	1,366	−4,879	17,920	−635
1976	−304			3,019				−2,570			5,348	3,570
1973 1st quarter	370	−149	−225	555		−699	490	−787		−352	934	501
2nd quarter	186	−177	280	1,025		−736	679	73		149	901	−408
3rd quarter	222	69	−542	818		−14	36	−461		222	960	104
4th quarter	380	−209	−204	1,903		−1,066	1,134	−669		58	4,322	−309
1974 1st quarter	339	−517	−1,604	2,739		−2,501	461	−2,124		−566	2,356	−3,280
2nd quarter	−122	−309	−1,862	2,180		−2,431	527	−1,973		−141	−70	−2,396
3rd quarter	320	−139	−1,928	849		−1,414	556	−1,936		1	−2,383	−134
4th quarter	375	−14	−548	3,812		−1,465	449	−1,872		−812	2,405	1,137
1975 1st quarter	550	−92	−369	2,184		−461	119	−1,573		−1,876	4,518	−901
2nd quarter	78	44	941	755		142	636	−748		−1,113	5,466	−292
3rd quarter	−98	−76	−128	−425		859	181	−1,102		−700	1,787	−23
4th quarter	158	−397	−446	1,345		−1,080	659	−210		−1,190	6,149	581
1976 1st quarter	−413	−573	−1,313	1,160		−1,412	854	−466		−1,914	2,693	−97
2nd quarter	80	−405	−522	537		−1,338	155	−877		−1,177	2,627	917
3rd quarter	−352	−375	−2,145	−183		732	579	−667		−279	−2,479	1,040
4th quarter	380			1,505				−560			2,507	1,710
1977 1st quarter												860

Source: UK Economic Trends. All others: IMF International Financial Statistics.

increased by 7 per cent on the previous quarter while imports were flat.

After falling in the last quarter of 1976 unemployment increased markedly during the first quarter of this year. Despite consecutively higher monthly consumer price rises in the first quarter of 1977, the average annual inflation rate for the quarter as a whole slackened to 9 per cent, compared with 10 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1976 and 9½ per cent for 1976 as a whole.

Italy

The pace of recovery in Italy accelerated strongly in the latter part of 1976 and the beginning of 1977. Industrial production, increased at 11½ per cent over the year as a whole, faster than in any of the other major industrial countries except Japan. A similar pattern continued in the first quarter of 1977 with production increasing by 12 per cent compared to the same period a year earlier. Imports (measured in US dollars), despite government controls, increased by 13 per cent in 1976, twice as fast as the increase in export value. However, measured in volume terms exports rose by some 12½ per cent and imports by 15 per cent. These developments were largely the results of severe lira depreciation throughout 1976 exerting a downward force on the dollar price of exports, but having the opposite effect on import prices.

Unemployment increased during each quarter of 1976, finally registering 3.7 per cent for the year as a whole compared to 3.3 per cent in 1975. Consumer prices increased at an annual rate of 22 per cent in the first quarter of 1977, comparing unfavourably with a 16½ per cent inflation rate in 1976 as a whole.

Manufactures

Exports of manufactures by the main manufacturing countries are estimated to have risen in US dollar value in 1976 by 12 per cent compared with a year earlier. In volume terms this represents an increase of around 11 per cent above the depressed level of 1975. The provisional figures suggest that the United Kingdom's value share has returned to the 8.8 per cent of 1974 following the increase in 1975. The shares of both the United States and France also declined but Japan and the Federal Republic of Germany both recorded an increased share. The relative volume series comparing the performance of the United Kingdom with the main manufacturing countries has followed a similar pattern. Information on competitors' prices is not available beyond the third quarter of 1976. There was a sharp improvement in UK competitiveness in the second quarter of 1976 following the depreciation of sterling between March and June. However, preliminary figures for the third quarter indicate a deterioration in our position in that period.

TABLE 11 Export volume (1970 = 100)

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom	EEC	Canada†	United States†	Japan	OECD
1971	107	105	108	106	116	108	113	109	108	106	99	121	107
1972	123	113	124	115	122	121	121	111	117	115	108	129	116
1973	139	124	137	135	135	124	143	126	133	127	133	136	132
1974	140	132	150	150	141	133	145	133	142	122	145	158	140
1975	131	133	146	134	153	135	139	130	134	112	141	161	134
1976	149	134	157	153	160	152	153	139	149	127	145	195	148
1974 1st quarter	142	134	153	155	143	132	145	126	144	122	140	142	139
2nd quarter	143	128	149	149	135	128	145	134	142	118	148	156	141
3rd quarter	137	134	148	148	140	136	148	138	142	123	144	160	141
4th quarter	134	133	149	147	152	131	144	131	139	117	143	166	140
1975 1st quarter	131	126	148	134	150	133	135	133	135	111	141	159	134
2nd quarter	121	127	140	131	135	132	132	127	130	112	137	151	130
3rd quarter	124	126	141	132	157	135	137	126	132	110	143	155	132
4th quarter	140	138	146	141	164	142	152	134	141	112	146	172	140
1976 1st quarter	141	128	149	146	142	145	147	135	143	121	138	194	142
2nd quarter	143	131	158	152	158	151	143	140	147	126	146	195	147
3rd quarter	147	138	157	154	159	150	155	137	149	131	149	194	150
4th quarter	157	137	164	158	175	159	169	145	157	124	145	193	152 (e)
1977 1st quarter								145			144	200	
% change latest three months:													
On previous three months	6.8	−0.7	4.5	2.6	10.1	6.0	9.0 . .	Nil	5.4	−5.3	−0.7	3.6	1.3
On a year earlier	12.1	−0.7	12.3	12.1	6.7	12.0	11.2	7.4	11.3	10.7	4.3	3.1	8.6

The volume figures are derived from the figures in table 8 and the average value indices published by the OECD converted to dollar terms.

Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade

TABLE 12 Import volume (1970 = 100)

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom	EEC	Canada	United States	Japan	OECD
1971	107	98	107	111	108	101	105	105	106	110	109	100	105
1972	119	101	123	122	116	111	111	116	116	129	123	113	117
1973	138	120	140	130	136	125	127	133	130	149	130	145	131
1974	143	114	146	127	136	118	120	134	128	164	126	141	130
1975	135	108	135	130	117	105	115	124	121	155	112	123	121
1976	152	127	163	153	140	121	127	133	139	167	136	137	137
1974 1st quarter	143	120	151	123	132	124	119	132	129	162	126	147	131
2nd quarter	141	110	147	125	139	116	118	137	127	160	127	140	129
3rd quarter	138	104	145	129	136	122	122	135	128	167	130	142	131
4th quarter	130	100	140	130	120	112	117	131	124	163	126	139	128
1975 1st quarter	126	97	133	125	119	100	114	126	118	156	113	121	119
2nd quarter	125	96	128	127	111	96	109	119	115	155	103	115	115
3rd quarter	126	106	133	131	117	105	111	126	120	152	113	125	120
4th quarter	133	123	148	139	132	117	121	127	130	158	119	129	127
1976 1st quarter	138	120	155	143	135	121	116	126	131	164	125	128	130
2nd quarter	141	125	162	148	136	116	124	134	136	168	132	132	133
3rd quarter	142	131	166	153	140	114	126	136	138	167	142	143	139
4th quarter	152	133	173	162	151	130	141	138	144	166	143	143	145 (e)
1977 1st quarter								140			148		
% change latest three months:													
On previous three months	7.0	1.5	4.2	5.9	7.9	14.0	11.9	1.4	4.3	−0.6	3.5	Nil	4.3
On a year earlier	10.1	8.1	16.9	16.5	14.4	11.1	16.5	11.1	10.8	5.1	18.4	10.9	14.2

The volume figures are derived from the value figures in table 9 and the average value indices published by the OECD converted to dollar terms.

Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade

TABLE 13 Exports of manufactures by the main manufacturing countries

Quarters or quarterly averages

	Canada	United States†	Japan	Sweden	Switzerland	Belgium/ Luxembourg	France	F.R. of Germany	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom (seasonally adjusted)	Total† (seasonally adjusted)	UK share per cent
						Value US $ thousand million (fob)							
1970	2.39	7.17	4.53	1.31	1.16	2.40	3.40	7.67	2.77	1.70	4.08	38.57	10.6
1971	2.61	7.42	5.66	1.44	1.31	2.57	3.85	8.75	3.16	2.02	4.77	43.54	10.9
1972	2.94	8.27	6.77	1.68	1.57	3.31	4.76	10.38	3.91	2.53	5.16	51.27	10.1
1973	3.42	10.95	8.69	2.34	2.17	4.57	6.52	15.08	4.65	3.44	6.41	68.23	9.4
1974	4.13	15.57	13.12	3.03	2.73	5.76	8.40	19.74	6.22	4.74	8.01	91.44	8.8
1975	4.17	17.36	13.29	3.46	3.01	5.70	10.03	19.90	7.29	4.83	9.15	98.20	9.3
1976	4.95 p	18.99	16.14 p	3.69	3.39 p	6.48 p	10.78 p	22.67	7.76 p	5.52 p	9.64	110.00 p	8.8 p
1973 1st qtr	3.30	9.89	7.10	2.11	1.84	3.92	5.69	12.42	3.52	3.22	5.80	60.07	9.7
2nd qtr	3.51	11.04	8.17	2.28	2.12	4.42	6.67	14.33	4.46	3.39	6.43	64.71	9.9
3rd qtr	2.94	10.52	9.06	2.18	2.23	4.62	6.27	16.18	5.04	3.41	6.70	72.34	9.3
4th qtr	3.93	12.33	10.41	2.77	2.49	5.33	7.47	17.37	5.60	3.74	6.70	75.79	8.8
1974 1st qtr	3.72	14.09	9.66	2.53	2.45	5.02	7.40	17.83	5.17	4.19	6.89	80.63	8.5
2nd qtr	4.19	16.05	13.07	3.16	2.79	6.34	8.69	20.22	5.88	5.02	7.84	90.45	8.7
3rd qtr	3.97	15.15	14.07	2.95	2.34	5.50	8.11	19.38	6.79	4.83	9.03	95.98	9.4
4th qtr	4.64	16.97	15.70	3.49	3.33	6.17	9.40	21.53	7.04	4.91	8.29	98.72	8.4
1975 1st qtr	3.97	16.89	12.51	3.54	2.95	6.16	10.25	19.78	6.92	4.86	9.37	99.24	9.4
2nd qtr	4.35	17.93	13.04	3.77	3.13	6.00	10.98	21.02	7.28	5.13	9.11	98.67	9.2
3rd qtr	3.73	16.48	13.14	2.91	2.71	4.72	8.62	18.40	7.19	4.16	8.77	94.97	9.2
4th qtr	4.63	18.16	14.48	3.62	3.25	5.92	10.27	20.41	7.76	5.16	9.33	99.89	9.3
1976 1st qtr	4.51 p	18.20	13.76 p	3.52	3.03	6.07	10.40	20.80	6.65 p	4.92 p	9.58	103.92 p	9.2 p
2nd qtr	5.47 p	19.32	15.71 p	3.67	3.38 p	6.64	11.23	21.90	7.44 p	5.28 p	9.49	106.29 p	8.9 p
3rd qtr	4.59 p	17.95	16.88 p	3.45	3.20 p	5.83 p	9.58 p	22.26	7.87 p	5.33 p	9.60	110.30 p	8.6 p
4th qtr	5.16 p	19.89	18.24 p	4.12	3.95 p	7.39 p	11.91 p	25.72	9.08 p	6.56 p	9.88	118.06 p	8.4 p
						Volume index 1970 = 100							*Relative volume UK as percentage of total*
1971	106	101	120	105	103	106	108	106	107	115	110	108	102.3
1972	115	111	129	107	111	123	122	116	124	128	112	117	95.8
1973	128	135	136	125	122	138	134	134	133	146	128	133	96.2
1974	129	158	159	134	127	140	152	150	146	155	135	148	91.2
1975	123	152	162		115	128	149	133	146	146	130	141	92.8
1976		156						152			140	156 p	89.9
1973 1st qtr	125	128	125	125	117	134	133	128	107	153	124	130	95.3
2nd qtr	131	139	133	124	120	137	139	133	133	148	126	129	97.8
3rd qtr	111	129	136	109	115	130	121	130	139	136	130	134	97.4
4th qtr	143	143	149	143	134	151	145	144	152	145	131	139	94.3
1974 1st qtr	122	155	129	131	128	139	155	151	140	152	130	145	89.2
2nd qtr	131	170	158	138	132	153	162	151	143	165	135	147	91.7
3rd qtr	122	149	168	125	108	129	140	144	150	153	141	150	93.5
4th qtr	141	160	182	143	139	140	153	153	149	151	133	148	90.1
1975 1st qtr	112	151	144	128	110	129	153	127	136	137	134	138	96.9
2nd qtr	127	157	153	131	121	130	155	135	144	147	127	137	92.7
3rd qtr	113	144	162	110	99	112	132	127	145	133	127	139	91.6
4th qtr	138	156	189	135	129	143	157	144	158	167	133	148	90.3
1976 1st qtr	122 p	153	182 p	129	120 p	143		145	149 p	156 p	137	152 p	90.1 p
2nd qtr	145 p	165	202 p	131	130 p	154		150	167 p	165 p	141	154 p	91.4 p
3rd qtr	123 p	147	207 p	121	123 p			148			139	157 p	88.6 p
4th qtr		158						163			144	161 p	89.7 p
						Unit value index in US $ 1970 = 100							
1975 weights	0.0419	0.1738	0.1552	0.0436	0.0343	0.0587	0.1132	0.2457	0.0825	0.0510		Weighted average ex UK	*Ratio of UK to weighted average*
1971	103	102	104	105	109	101	105	108	106	104	107	105	102.2
1972	107	104	116	120	122	112	115	117	114	117	116	113	102.6
1973	112	113	141	143	154	137	143	147	126	139	127	135	94.1
1974	134	137	181	173	185	171	162	172	154	178	152	163	93.1
1975	142	159	178	210	220	185	197	195	180	195	176	182	96.5
1976											175		
1973 1st qtr	111	108	125	129	136	122	126	127	119	124	118	121	97.3
2nd qtr	112	111	136	140	152	134	141	141	121	135	128	131	97.8
3rd qtr	111	114	147	153	167	148	153	162	131	148	130	143	91.2
4th qtr	115	120	154	149	160	147	152	157	133	152	131	144	90.7
1974 1st qtr	128	127	165	148	165	150	141	154	133	163	134	147	91.2
2nd qtr	134	132	183	175	182	173	158	175	148	179	152	162	93.5
3rd qtr	136	142	185	181	187	177	170	175	163	186	158	168	93.7
4th qtr	138	148	190	187	206	183	181	183	171	192	164	175	93.8
1975 1st qtr	148	156	192	211	231	199	197	203	184	209	177	189	93.4
2nd qtr	143	159	188	220	224	192	208	203	183	205	181	189	95.5
3rd qtr	138	159	179	202	210	176	193	189	179	185	173	179	96.7
4th qtr	141	162	169	206	217	172	193	185	177	182	173	177	97.8 p
1976 1st qtr	155	166	167	209	218	177		187	161	186	177	178 p	99.3 p
2nd qtr	158	188	172	214	224	180		190	161	189	171	181 p	94.5 p
3rd qtr	157	170	180	218	225			196			177	186 p	95.3 p
4th qtr		175						206			175		

† Excluding 'special category exports' for which detailed information on countries of destination is withheld by the United States authorities.

Sources: Values. United Kingdom and Total: DTI. Other countries: OECD updated from national sources.
Volume. Derived from the value figures and the unit value index numbers.
Unit values United Kingdom and Total: DTI. Other countries: United Nations. The weighting reflects the relative importance of each country in UK's overseas markets The ratio indicates the UK competitive position.

Capital expenditure of the manufacturing, distributive and service industries in the first quarter of 1977

The volume of investment in both manufacturing industry and the distributive and service industries (excluding shipping) has fallen in the first quarter of 1977 but in neither case is this thought to indicate a reversal of the recent rising trend.

Manufacturing industry

Capital expenditure by manufacturing industry in the first quarter is provisionally estimated at £410 million at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted, a fall of 3 per cent from the level of the fourth quarter of 1976. Quarterly investment by manufacturing industry is prone to erratic movements (see, for example, the fluctuations in 1973 when the trend was also rising) and it seems likely that the first quarter of 1977 is a below-trend figure.

By asset, investment rose by 7 per cent for vehicles compared with the fourth quarter of last year but fell by 6 per cent for new building work and by 3 per cent for plant and machinery.

Distributive and service industries (excluding shipping)

The provisional estimate of capital expenditure by the distributive and service industries (excluding shipping) in the first quarter of 1977 is about £476 million, at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted. This shows a reduction of about 2 per cent from the level in the previous quarter. Fluctuations of this kind are not unexpected in present circumstances in which the trend for new building work is declining, whereas for vehicles and for plant and machinery it is increasing.

Shipping industry

This series continues to fluctuate: the provisional estimate of £65 million, at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted, for the shipping industry's investment in the first quarter of 1977 is much greater than the figure for the previous quarter, and is somewhat higher than the average for 1976.

Note

The estimation of changes in the volume of capital expenditure (as distinct from changes at current prices) is subject to greater error when price rises are larger, and this should be borne in mind in using the figures.

Inquiries: 01-215 3175/3176 (manufacturing), 01-215 3345 (distributive and services, shipping).

TABLE 1 Fixed capital expenditure at 1970 prices seasonally adjusted of manufacturing, distributive and service industries

£ million

Period	Total	Analysis by industrial sectors			Analysis by type of asset		
		Manufacturing industries	Distributive and service industries (excluding shipping)	Shipping industry	New building work	Vehicles	Plant and machinery
1966	3,228	1,774	1,334	120	938	556	1,733
1967	3,314	1,738	1,407	170	939	603	1,772
1968	3,703 (3,615)*	1,851 (1,800)*	1,561 (1,554)*	290 (260)*	963	759 (729)*	1,980 (1,922)*
1969	3,893 (3,981)*	1,978 (2,029)*	1,683 (1,690)*	233 (263)*	1,044	728 (758)*	2,120 (2,178)*
1970	4,294	2,130	1,799	364	1,063	859	2,372
1971	4,284	1,991	1,930	364	1,114	832	2,338
1972	4,293	1,739	2,071	482	1,044	1,018	2,230
1973	4,759	1,872	2,390	498	1,131	1,129	2,500
1974	4,728	2,024	2,289	415	1,168	1,025	2,535
1975	4,046	1,737	1,970	339	1,013	821	2,213
1976	3,754	1,651	1,901	203	885	741	2,129
1971 1st quarter	1,051	513	467	71	276	185	590
2nd quarter	1,082	499	479	104	276	226	581
3rd quarter	1,094	498	495	101	281	218	595
4th quarter	1,057	480	489	88	281	204	572
1972 1st quarter	1,053	458	487	107	260	230	564
2nd quarter	1,078	429	521	128	262	260	557
3rd quarter	1,058	425	522	111	256	251	551
4th quarter	1,103	427	540	136	266	278	559
1973 1st quarter	1,204	467	583	154	280	308	615
2nd quarter	1,141	449	593	99	281	252	609
3rd quarter	1,178	489	590	99	294	261	623
4th quarter	1,236	467	623	146	276	308	652
1974 1st quarter	1,181	510	601	71	303	228	651
2nd quarter	1,172	502	573	97	290	251	631
3rd quarter	1,186	501	556	128	289	278	618
4th quarter	1,189	511	559	120	287	266	636
1975 1st quarter	1,058	471	492	95	276	221	561
2nd quarter	1,037	444	498	95	262	212	563
3rd quarter	1,007	416	501	90	246	207	554
4th quarter	945	406	480	59	228	182	535
1976 1st quarter	914	402	452	60	226	183	505
2nd quarter	914	408	478	27	222	164	528
3rd quarter	983	418	484	81	225	220	538
4th quarter	944	422	486	35	212	174	558
1977 1st quarter	951	410	476	65	196	204	551

The figures given above cover a wide sector of the economy, accounting – after exclusion of dwellings – for some 50 per cent of all UK gross domestic fixed capital formation in 1975. The scope of manufacturing and the distributive and service industries is defined in the notes at the end of the article, and falls very largely in the private sector of the economy, although some public sector elements are included as appropriate (notably the British Steel Corporation, in manufacturing industry). Exploration and development work in the North Sea (Order II) is excluded.

* After allowing for expenditure, brought forward into 1968 from 1969 to secure the higher rate of investment grants which ended on 31 December 1968: estimated at £51 million for manufacturing industry, £7 million for distributive and service industries, and £30 million for shipping. The estimate for shipping is particularly uncertain because of the erratic nature of this industry's capital expenditure, while that for the distributive and service industries is uncertain because of the smallness of the effect.

TABLE 2 Fixed capital expenditure of manufacturing industry at 1970 prices seasonally adjusted

£ million

Period	Total all manufacturing industries	Analysis by industry group: Food, drink and tobacco	Coal and petroleum products	Chemicals	Metal manufacture	Engineering shipbuilding and metal goods	Vehicles	Textiles leather and clothing	Paper printing and publishing	Other manufacturing industries	Analysis by type of asset: New building work	Vehicles	Plant and machinery
1966	1,773.7	203.3	78.1	304.8	151.5	361.6	193.2	164.3	111.1	205.8	363.4	98.3	1,312.0
1967	1,737.7	236.5	123.7	256.1	155.4	353.2	194.6	133.0	109.0	176.2	319.6	99.5	1,318.6
1968	1,851.2 (1,800.2)*	247.1	127.7	256.0	145.8	392.2	172.2	176.7	112.2	221.3	335.9	109.2	1,406.1 (1,355.1)*
1969	1,977.5 (2,028.5)*	238.8	102.9	296.4	167.9	394.0	208.7	189.4	121.3	258.1	390.1	115.9	1,471.5 (1,522.5)*
1970	2,129.8	246.4	82.8	382.3	256.4	422.3	233.4	170.9	134.2	201.1	391.2	114.7	1,623.9
1971	1,990.7	248.6	118.5	333.9	296.3	373.3	149.2	144.4	110.8	215.7	357.1	113.4	1,520.2
1972	1,739.2	258.7	100.8	240.0	255.3	343.8	98.8	120.0	101.8	220.0	305.5	123.3	1,310.4
1973	1,871.7	290.1	39.8	192.4	213.9	428.4	143.8	178.5	124.0	260.8	330.8	133.0	1,407.9
1974	2,024.0	294.8	44.9	223.1	250.5	479.4	158.3	190.3	131.6	251.1	361.4	138.2	1,524.4
1975	1,737.2	223.9	52.8	270.5	281.0	379.4	125.9	126.7	102.7	174.3	307.3	104.5	1,325.4
1976	1,650.5	218.4	49.9	270.1	290.8	346.8	127.6	92.1	82.1	172.7	252.6	119.8	1,278.1
1971 1st quarter	513.4	62.8	26.0	88.4	72.7	103.1	40.3	41.0	27.9	51.2	90.9	27.9	394.6
2nd quarter	499.0	61.0	26.7	78.7	71.3	96.4	40.7	39.5	29.4	55.3	90.0	29.0	380.0
3rd quarter	497.9	62.7	31.6	84.9	77.4	99.8	36.5	32.2	27.3	55.5	87.2	27.2	383.5
4th quarter	480.4	62.1	34.2	81.9	74.9	84.0	31.7	31.7	26.2	53.7	89.0	29.3	362.1
1972 1st quarter	458.1	60.0	30.8	69.0	84.1	82.1	26.2	26.3	22.1	57.5	79.8	28.2	350.1
2nd quarter	429.1	62.4	27.2	62.8	62.4	81.0	23.2	30.2	25.7	54.2	77.8	29.6	321.7
3rd quarter	424.8	67.8	22.2	57.5	53.6	88.5	23.5	30.3	26.7	54.7	76.3	31.9	316.6
4th quarter	427.2	68.5	20.6	50.7	55.2	92.2	25.9	33.2	27.3	53.6	71.6	33.6	322.0
1973 1st quarter	466.8	76.3	17.9	49.8	59.4	99.0	32.8	40.9	31.4	59.3	76.7	34.0	356.1
2nd quarter	448.9	64.8	18.1	49.3	40.7	106.4	34.0	40.5	30.8	64.3	78.2	31.9	338.8
3rd quarter	488.6	73.0	13.9	46.8	59.6	110.1	38.0	48.2	30.8	68.2	89.2	33.7	365.7
4th quarter	467.4	76.0	−10.1	46.5	54.2	112.9	39.0	48.9	31.0	69.0	86.7	33.4	347.3
1974 1st quarter	509.9	78.9	9.9	49.7	55.4	124.4	40.7	49.7	31.0	70.2	91.4	34.5	384.0
2nd quarter	502.2	76.0	9.8	51.5	60.8	117.6	39.8	48.6	34.1	64.0	89.4	35.3	377.5
3rd quarter	501.2	73.4	11.2	56.0	58.7	119.4	40.2	48.2	33.0	61.1	87.9	35.3	378.0
4th quarter	510.7	66.5	14.0	65.9	75.6	118.0	37.6	43.8	33.5	55.8	92.7	33.1	384.9
1975 1st quarter	471.2	63.2	12.8	68.2	69.8	106.5	35.3	36.7	29.0	49.7	87.4	28.5	355.3
2nd quarter	444.4	57.5	14.3	70.0	67.7	99.3	32.2	32.4	25.6	45.4	80.2	25.3	338.9
3rd quarter	416.1	49.7	14.7	69.3	70.9	89.4	28.6	29.0	25.4	39.1	72.7	24.9	318.5
4th quarter	405.5	53.5	11.0	63.0	72.6	84.2	29.8	28.6	22.7	40.1	67.0	25.8	312.7
1976 1st quarter	402.0	51.7	14.1	60.0	76.9	85.7	27.4	26.1	22.3	37.9	66.3	26.8	309.0
2nd quarter	408.2	49.6	12.8	66.6	79.8	84.4	31.2	23.3	21.4	39.3	61.9	31.4	315.1
3rd quarter	418.0	59.7	10.5	71.5	71.7	85.8	32.6	22.0	19.5	44.6	61.9	31.1	324.9
4th quarter	422.3	57.4	12.5	72.0	62.4	90.9	36.4	20.7	18.9	50.9	62.5	30.5	329.1
1977 1st quarter	410.1										58.8	32.6	318.7

TABLE 3 Fixed capital expenditure in the distributive and service industries (excluding shipping) at 1970 prices seasonally adjusted

£ million

Period	Total	Analysis by industry group: Wholesale distribution	Retail distribution	Other industries	Analysis by type of asset: New building work	Vehicles	Plant and machinery
1966	1,334	147	231	956	570	342	421
1967	1,407	170	225	1,012	616	338	453
1968	1,561 (1,554)*	166	283	1,112 (1,105)*	624	368	570 (563)*
1969	1,683 (1,690)*	160	295	1,228 (1,235)*	650	389	643 (650)*
1970	1,799	176	299	1,325	666	394	739
1971	1,930	185	334	1,411	754	367	809
1972	2,071	198	400	1,473	736	435	899
1973	2,390	197	460	1,733	799	507	1,084
1974	2,289	174	432	1,683	803	478	1,008
1975	1,970	130	404	1,437	703	384	884
1976	1,901	132	401	1,365	630	427	844
1971 1st quarter	467	44	82	341	184	89	195
2nd quarter	479	46	86	346	185	96	198
3rd quarter	495	47	84	363	194	92	209
4th quarter	489	48	81	360	192	89	208
1972 1st quarter	487	49	91	347	178	102	207
2nd quarter	521	50	96	375	184	108	229
3rd quarter	522	46	103	373	180	112	231
4th quarter	540	53	109	378	195	114	232
1973 1st quarter	583	52	110	422	203	124	256
2nd quarter	593	50	118	426	203	121	269
3rd quarter	590	47	119	424	204	131	255
4th quarter	623	48	114	462	188	131	304
1974 1st quarter	601	47	107	447	210	125	266
2nd quarter	573	43	105	424	199	121	252
3rd quarter	556	45	102	409	201	116	239
4th quarter	559	39	118	402	193	116	250
1975 1st quarter	492	35	94	363	188	99	204
2nd quarter	498	34	102	363	181	93	224
3rd quarter	501	31	103	366	173	93	235
4th quarter	480	29	105	345	161	98	221
1976 1st quarter	452	32	106	315	160	98	195
2nd quarter	478	34	110	334	160	107	211
3rd quarter	484	35	96	353	162	111	211
4th quarter	486	31	90	362	148	111	227
1977 1st quarter	476				137	108	231

TABLE 4 Fixed capital expenditure at current prices of manufacturing, distributive and service industries

£ million

Period	Total	Manufacturing industry	Distributive and service industries (excluding shipping)	Shipping industry
1966	2,787	1,517	1,172	99
1967	2,861	1,485	1,236	140
1968	3,304	1,639	1,418	247
1969	3,629	1,822	1,589	217
1970	4,294	2,130	1,799	364
1971	4,648	2,187	2,078	384
1972	4,971	2,044	2,373	553
1973	6,130	2,437	3,058	635
1974	7,203	3,145	3,447	611
1975	7,681	3,449	3,671	561
1976	8,456	3,941	4,121	394
1971 1st quarter	1,076	523	489	65
2nd quarter	1,131	519	504	108
3rd quarter	1,173	560	520	93
4th quarter	1,268	585	566	118
1972 1st quarter	1,160	512	543	105
2nd quarter	1,199	477	583	140
3rd quarter	1,197	504	582	111
4th quarter	1,415	552	666	197
1973 1st quarter	1,462	576	720	166
2nd quarter	1,392	541	733	118
3rd quarter	1,481	635	737	109
4th quarter	1,795	685	868	242
1974 1st quarter	1,633	711	832	90
2nd quarter	1,648	705	817	125
3rd quarter	1,808	795	840	173
4th quarter	2,114	934	958	223
1975 1st quarter	1,833	843	850	141
2nd quarter	1,833	815	880	137
3rd quarter	1,928	852	930	146
4th quarter	2,088	940	1,011	137
1976 1st quarter	1,946	906	930	110
2nd quarter	1,919	892	983	45
3rd quarter	2,184	997	1,039	148
4th quarter	2,407	1,147	1,169	92
1977 1st quarter	2,344	1,084	1,130	130

NOTES TO TABLES

Capital expenditure comprises expenditure on vehicles (including ships) and plant and machinery less receipts from sales of these assets, and on new building work.

The analysis by industry group follows the Standard Industrial Classification Revised 1968 edition:

Manufacturing Orders III to XIX
Distributive Trades Order XXIII
Wholesale MLH 810, 811, 812, 831, 832 (except leasing by Finance Houses and similar businesses)
Retail MLH 820, 821
Other Industries Order XX (Construction): XXII (Transport and Communication) excluding 701 – Railways, 706 – Port and Inland Water Transport, 707 – Air Transport and 708 – Postal Services and Telecommunications: XXIV (Insurance, Banking, Finance and Business Services) including leasing by Finance Houses and similar Businesses and excluding Trustee Savings Banks; XXV (Professional and Scientific Services) excluding 872 – Educational Services and 874 – Medical and Dental Services; and XXVI (Miscellaneous Services).

SIC Orders I (Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing), II (Mining and Quarrying), XXI (Gas, Electricity and Water), and XXVI (Public Administration and Defence) are completely excluded.

The estimates with the exception of those for manufacturing industry in table 2, are shown to the nearest £m but should not be regarded as accurate to this degree and care should be taken in using the industry figures in tables 2 and 3, because of the margins of error involved in the quarterly seasonal adjustments. Also, there may be an apparent discrepancy between the total and the sum of the constituent parts due to rounding.

See also footnotes to table 1.

Manufacturers' and distributors' stocks in the first quarter of 1977

Provisional figures show that manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers all increased their stocks substantially in the first quarter of 1977, making an overall increase of more than £300 million at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted.

Manufacturing industry

It is provisionally estimated that manufacturers' stocks increased by over £200 million at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted, in the first quarter of 1977.

Stocks of all assets appear to have risen substantially; stocks of materials and fuel rose by about £50 million, following the heavy destocking which took place in 1975 and 1976; work in progress and finished goods stocks increased by about £90 million and £70 million respectively.

The stocks/output ratio continued to rise during the first quarter and is estimated to have been 103.8 at the end of March compared with 102.6 at the end of December.

Distributive industries

Provisional estimates indicate that wholesalers' stocks increased by about £50 million, at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted, in the first quarter of 1977. This exceptionally large rise follows a year of modest stockbuilding. Retailers' stocks increased by about £80 million, at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted.

TABLE 1 Value of physical increase in industry's stocks at 1970 prices seasonally adjusted

£ million

	Total	Manufacturing	Wholesaling	Retailing
Level of stocks at end 1976	14,211	10,404	1,830	1,977
1970	379	325	68	−14
1971	−74	−148	52	22
1972	−82	−145	48	15
1973	888	404	102	382
1974	636	666	81	−111
1975	−526	−392	−111	−23
1976	29	5	23	1
1971 1st quarter	24	26	14	−16
2nd quarter	−62	−95	26	7
3rd quarter	−26	−49	9	14
4th quarter	−10	−30	3	17
1972 1st quarter	−44	−62	17	1
2nd quarter	−29	−70	1	40
3rd quarter	−43	−36	6	−13
4th quarter	34	23	24	−13
1973 1st quarter	292	172	37	82
2nd quarter	307	99	3	205
3rd quarter	119	42	29	48
4th quarter	170	91	32	47
1974 1st quarter	−41	−21	18	−38
2nd quarter	259	197	43	19
3rd quarter	322	358	3	−39
4th quarter	96	133	17	−53
1975 1st quarter	−52	18	−31	−38
2nd quarter	−226	−105	−54	−66
3rd quarter	−225	−234	−29	38
4th quarter	−23	−70	4	43
1976 1st quarter	67	31	24	12
2nd quarter	−192	−115	−22	−55
3rd quarter	35	4	10	22
4th quarter	119	86	11	22
1977 1st quarter	336	208	49	80

TABLE 2 Value of the physical increase of stocks held by manufacturing industry at 1970 prices seasonally adjusted

£ million

	Analysis by industry group							Analysis by type of asset		
	All manufacturing industries	Food, drink and tobacco	Chemicals, coal and petroleum products	Metal manufacture	Engineering, shipbuilding, vehicles and metal goods	Textiles, leather and clothing	Other manufacturing industries	Materials and fuel	Work in progress	Finished goods
Level of stocks at end 1976	10,404	1,316	1,170	883	5,151	850	1,034	3,468	4,040	2,897
1970	325	11	43	50	222	1	−1	113	122	90
1971	−148	11	17	5	−164	−14	−3	−146	−98	96
1972	−145	20	3	−44	−85	−53	15	−41	32	−136
1973	404	72	80	−13	230	13	23	244	252	−92
1974	666	75	172	26	270	46	78	276	107	283
1975	−392	−99	−40	39	−120	−40	−132	−380	−112	99
1976	5	−9	73	55	−77	−26	−11	−78	12	71
1971 1st quarter	26	8	−5	34	−26	9	6	−21	−22	69
2nd quarter	−95	−5	16	−27	−43	−32	−4	−45	−63	13
3rd quarter	−49	−12	−2	−8	−27	5	−5	−42	−8	1
4th quarter	−30	21	9	6	−69	4	−1	−37	−5	13
1972 1st quarter	−62	8	15	−50	−11	−13	−11	−13	12	−61
2nd quarter	−70	16	−21	5	−67	−13	10	−53	20	−38
3rd quarter	−36	−8	6	−4	−15	−17	2	3	−7	−32
4th quarter	23	4	3	5	8	−11	13	22	7	−5
1973 1st quarter	172	3	19	29	85	−5	42	73	100	−1
2nd quarter	99	24	31	−4	53	6	−12	74	51	−27
3rd quarter	42	24	16	−15	21	3	−7	31	59	−48
4th quarter	91	20	15	−24	71	9	–	66	43	−17
1974 1st quarter	−21	22	44	−50	−19	−1	−18	66	−7	−80
2nd quarter	197	27	39	1	55	30	46	61	21	115
3rd quarter	358	42	74	39	136	24	42	135	73	150
4th quarter	133	−16	15	36	98	−7	7	14	21	98
1975 1st quarter	18	−12	−5	55	7	−1	−26	−129	29	118
2nd quarter	−105	−54	−22	15	15	−22	−37	−59	−31	−16
3rd quarter	−234	−28	−32	−26	−86	−16	−46	−133	−72	−29
4th quarter	−70	−4	19	−5	−56	−2	−22	−58	−38	26
1976 1st quarter	31	−34	24	−7	38	10	−1	−43	37	37
2nd quarter	−115	−11	16	−5	−81	−19	−15	−37	−66	−12
3rd quarter	4	11	27	36	−62	−8	−1	22	−20	2
4th quarter	86	25	6	30	28	−10	6	−20	61	45
1977 1st quarter	208							53	90	65

TABLE 3 Value of the physical increase of stocks held by wholesalers at 1970 prices seasonally adjusted £ million

	Total wholesalers	General wholesale distributors	Dealers in coal, builders materials, etc.	Dealers in industrial materials and machinery
Level of stocks at end 1976	1,830	1,037	158	635
1970	68	15	—	53
1971	52	41	−3	14
1972	48	41	11	−3
1973	102	127	−1	−24
1974	81	6	—	75
1975	−111	−142	−13	44
1976	23	−3	11	16
1971 1st quarter	14	3	1	11
2nd quarter	26	20	1	5
3rd quarter	9	12	—	−3
4th quarter	3	6	−4	2
1972 1st quarter	17	2	1	14
2nd quarter	1	4	2	−5
3rd quarter	6	22	2	−18
4th quarter	24	13	7	5
1973 1st quarter	37	37	−1	1
2nd quarter	3	13	3	−13
3rd quarter	29	41	1	−13
4th quarter	32	36	−4	—
1974 1st quarter	18	19	6	−7
2nd quarter	43	21	1	22
3rd quarter	3	−22	−4	29
4th quarter	17	−12	−2	31
1975 1st quarter	−31	−52	12	9
2nd quarter	−54	−52	−11	9
3rd quarter	−29	−26	−6	4
4th quarter	4	−12	−7	23
1976 1st quarter	24	11	20	−7
2nd quarter	−22	8	−10	−20
3rd quarter	10	−16	6	20
4th quarter	11	−6	−4	22
1977 1st quarter	49			

TABLE 4 Increase in the book value of manufacturers' and distributors' stocks

£ million

	Total	Manufacturing	Wholesaling	Retailing
Level of stocks at end 1976	34,451	26,047	4,502	3,902
1970	1,305	1,038	162	105
1971	768	471	160	137
1972	950	618	217	115
1973	3,408	2,331	593	484
1974	6,299	5,098	779	422
1975	3,302	2,574	212	516
1976	6,111	4,759	873	479
1971 1st quarter	260	211	29	21
2nd quarter	295	180	60	55
3rd quarter	113	28	70	14
4th quarter	100	53	—	47
1972 1st quarter	90	60	5	26
2nd quarter	198	113	25	60
3rd quarter	251	148	106	−3
4th quarter	412	298	82	32
1973 1st quarter	600	426	71	102
2nd quarter	678	494	88	96
3rd quarter	959	604	239	116
4th quarter	1,171	807	194	170
1974 1st quarter	1,756	1,492	204	60
2nd quarter	1,845	1,438	224	183
3rd quarter	1,521	1,249	199	73
4th quarter	1,177	919	152	106
1975 1st quarter	987	927	−16	76
2nd quarter	640	607	−20	53
3rd quarter	553	257	124	172
4th quarter	1,122	783	123	215
1976 1st quarter	1,004	829	119	56
2nd quarter	1,216	1,079	147	−9
3rd quarter	1,770	1,257	340	173
4th quarter	2,116	1,595	262	259
1977 1st quarter	1,926	1,426	197	303

Notes relating to tables 1 to 4

The analysis by industry group follows the Standard Industrial Classification (1968 edition).

Manufacturing Orders III to XIX.

Distributive Trades Order XXII:

Wholesale MLH 810, 811, 812, 831, 832 (except leasing by Finance Houses)

Retail MLH 820, 821

Book values exclude VAT. Purchase Tax payable on retailer's stock prior to the second quarter of 1973.

The estimates are shown to the nearest £ million but should not be regarded as accurate to this degree and care should be taken in using the industry figures in tables 2 and 3 because of the margin of error involved in quarterly seasonal adjustments. Differences between totals and the sum of constituent parts are due to rounding.

TABLE 5 The relationship of manufacturers' stocks to manufacturing production

	Index numbers – 4th quarter 1969 = 100 Seasonally adjusted				Index numbers – 4th quarter 1969 = 100 Seasonally adjusted		
	Stock levels at 1970 prices	Production (with 1970 net output weight)	Ratio of stocks to production		Stock levels at 1970 prices	Production (with 1970 net output weight)	Ratio of stocks to production
1967 Q1	94	89	105.4	1972 Q1	101	98	103.0
2	94	90	104.6	2	101	102	98.4
3	94	90	104.5	3	100	103	96.9
4	94	92	102.6	4	100	107	94.0
1968 Q1	93	94	98.8	1973 Q1	102	111	92.2
2	94	96	98.4	2	103	111	93.3
3	96	96	99.5	3	104	112	92.5
4	97	97	99.8	4	105	111	93.9
1969 Q1	98	98	100.0	1974 Q1	104	107	97.4
2	99	100	98.7	2	106	110	96.4
3	99	100	99.5	3	110	110	100.1
4	100	100	100.0	4	111	106	105.0
1970 Q1	101	100	101.1	1975 Q1	112	106	104.9
2	102	100	102.0	2	111	101	109.7
3	103	101	101.7	3	108	100	108.1
4	103	101	102.2	4	107	101	106.7
1971 Q1	104	99	104.2	1976 Q1	108	102	105.3
2	103	101	102.1	2	107	104	102.7
3	102	100	101.8	3	107	104	102.8
4	102	100	102.1	4	107	105	102.6
				1977 Q1	110	106	103.8

1 The index numbers of the level of stocks relate to the end of each quarter: the index of production refers to production during the quarter.

2 The 1970 index of production has been rebased on the fourth quarter of 1969 for the purpose of this table.

3 The index numbers of the stocks production ratio are calculated from unrounded estimates of the data in the previous two columns.

Note

The estimation of physical change in stock is subject to greater error when price increases are larger, and this should be borne in mind in using the figures.

Inquiries: 01-215 3176/5215 (manufacturing), 01-215 3345 (distributive).

Manufacturers' stocks in March

It is estimated that manufacturers' stocks rose by about £100 million at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted, in March. Indications are of rises in all three assets.

Monthly figures from January 1976 adjusted to agree with the quarterly figures published in the preceding article are shown below:

£ million

	1970 prices seasonally adjusted
1976 January	+40
February	No change
March	−10
April	−90
May	+40
June	−60
July	−50
August	+20
September	+30
October	+10
November	+10
December	+60
1977 January	+30
February	+80
March	+100

Inquiries: 01-215 3176/5215.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Slow-down in growth of energy consumption

Total inland energy consumption on a primary fuel input basis in the first quarter of 1977 was 2.2 per cent higher than in the same period last year. Coal and natural gas consumption rose by 3.2 per cent and 3.9 per cent respectively and nuclear electricity by nearly a quarter. Petroleum consumption was marginally below last year's level.

After allowing for seasonal adjustments and temperature correction, total consumption of all fuels, at 335.1 million tons of coal equivalent per annum, was only 1.8 per cent above last year's level.

This is stated in the Department of Energy's monthly statistical bulletin, *Energy Trends*, published on 26 May.

Coal: industry consuming more

Deliveries to industry were 12.2 per cent higher than last year, continuing the increases in coal deliveries to this sector which have been apparent since last autumn.

Total consumption of coal in the three months February to April 1977 was 2.5 per cent higher than a year ago, most of the increase being due to a 1.1 million ton rise in power station coal consumption.

Deep-mined coal production during the three-month period February to April was 1.0 per cent lower than in the comparable period of 1976.

Gas: increase in demand in April

Total gas sent out during the three month period February to April was 4,624 million therms, fractionally lower than in the corresponding period of 1976. During each of the first two months of the period gas sent out was below last year's levels but the much colder weather in April this year stimulated a substantial increase in demand.

Electricity: nuclear contribution growing

Total fuel used for generation during the first quarter of 1977 was 3.4 per cent greater than during the corresponding period of 1976. Coal consumption rose by nearly 1.2 million tons while, in terms of coal equivalent, the use of oil fell by 0.2 million tons and natural gas by 0.55 million tons to less than half last year's consumption level. The growth of nuclear electricity, which contributed an additional 0.85 million tons of coal equivalent during the period, helped to limit additional demands for fossil fuel.

Electricity supplied during the first quarter was about 3.5 per cent higher than in the same period last year. Almost the whole of the increase occurred during January, which was very cold, and, more recently, electricity supplied has returned much closer to the levels of a year ago.

Petroleum: deliveries lower recently

Refinery output of products during the first quarter of 1977 was 1.6 per cent higher in total than in the comparable period of 1976. The increase was almost wholly attributable to fuel oil, output of which rose by 10.1 per cent. In contrast, inland deliveries of fuel oil were 4.2 per cent lower than a year ago, the higher output going mainly to meet higher export demand.

Although total inland deliveries of products during the first quarter of 1977 remained at virtually last year's level, they were much influenced by the very high January deliveries and deliveries fell during February and March in most major products except motor spirit and derv fuel.

Value of fuel imports and exports

During the first quarter of 1977, the value of crude oil imports was 7 per cent higher than in the first quarter of 1976. The actual volume of imports fell by 3.1 million tons, 13.4 per cent, and the higher value was wholly attributable to the substantial rise in crude oil import prices. Similarly, the 3.9 per cent rise in the value of imports of refined products was accompanied by a 17 per cent decline in volume.

Exports of petroleum, both crude and refined, in the first quarter of 1977 were, however, £232 million higher than during the first quarter of last year, and more than offset the £86 million rise in the cost of imports.

Motor vehicle output in April

Production of cars in the four weeks ending 30 April of 106,458 units (26,615 per week) was 15 per cent above the level in April 1976. In the four months to April 1977, car production was 6 per cent below that of a year earlier. Production for export fell by 4 per cent and that for the home market fell by 7 per cent.

Production of commercial vehicles of 28,251 units (7,063 per week) was 4 per cent higher than in April last year. Production in the first four months for both export and the home market rose by 12 per cent compared with the same period last year.

(The summaries which follow are based on the seasonally adjusted figures in table 2.)

Cars

April passenger car production of 126,000 units was 13 per cent above the monthly average of 1976. Output in the three months February to April fell by 5 per cent compared with the preceding three months; within the total, home market production increased by 2 per cent while production for export fell by 13 per cent.

Commercial vehicles

Commercial vehicle production of 31,000 units was the same as the monthly average of 1976. In the period February to April, output rose by 1 per cent compared with the preceding three months. Output for the home market fell by 8 per cent while that for export rose by 11 per cent.

Notes to table 2

The seasonally adjusted series has been adjusted to exclude the effect of regularly recurring influences (eg holidays) but the figures still reflect the effect of factors that do not recur regularly (eg strikes).

Care should be taken not to interpret changes between one month and another as necessarily indicating the underlying trend. The averages in the latest three months and the previous three months give a more reliable guide to recent changes.

TABLE 2 Production seasonally adjusted

MONTHLY AVERAGE — Thousands

	Passenger cars			Commercial vehicles		
	For home market	For export	Total	For home market	For export	Total
1968	84	67	151	21.6	12.5	34.1
1969	74	69	143	22.7	16.1	38.8
1970	77	60	137	22.3	15.8	38.1
1971	86	59	145	22.3	15.7	38.0
1972	109	51	160	22.7	11.3	34.0
1973	95	50	145	21.5	13.2	34.7
1974	78	50	128	19.3	14.2	33.5
1975	61	45	106	16.2	15.5	31.7
1976	64	47	111	15.2	15.8	31.0
1977						
1976 1st quarter	67	49	116	14.7	16.9	31.6
2nd quarter	68	46	114	15.2	16.2	31.4
3rd quarter	62	44	106	15.0	15.4	30.4
4th quarter	59	48	107	15.9	14.7	30.6
1977 1st quarter	57	45	102	16.7	18.8	35.5
2nd quarter						
3rd quarter						
4th quarter						
1976 January	58	44	102	13.1	16.8	29.9
February	74	53	127	15.4	17.1	32.5
March	70	50	120	15.6	16.9	32.5
April	65	46	111	14.5	15.9	30.4
May	72	48	120	16.1	16.8	32.9
June	66	46	112	15.1	15.8	30.9
July	82	49	131	17.1	16.0	33.1
August	43	39	82	12.9	14.4	27.3
September	62	44	106	15.0	15.7	30.7
October	64	47	111	15.5	15.4	30.9
November	61	51	112	17.6	16.0	33.6
December	51	48	99	14.6	12.8	27.4
1977 January	66	53	119	17.9	19.6	37.5
February	53	42	95	16.0	18.0	34.0
March	53	40	93	16.1	18.8	34.9
April	76	50	126	14.3	16.7	31.0
Average of:						
Nov 76-Jan 77	59	51	110	16.7	16.1	32.8
Feb-Apr 1977	61	44	105	15.5	17.8	33.3
Percentage change	+2	−13	−5	−8	+11	+1

TABLE 1 Car and commercial vehicle production

Production figures of road motor vehicles cover complete vehicles, chassis with engines for delivery as such and un-assembled vehicles for export. Road tractors are included but battery-operated road vehicles are excluded.

		Passenger cars (including taxis)				Commercial road vehicles			
	No. of weeks	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average
1968	52	1,013,163	802,773	1,815,936	34,922	259,331	149,855	409,186	7,869
1969	53	892,758	824,315	1,717,073	32,398	272,998	192,778	465,776	8,788
1970	52	918,109	722,857	1,640,966	31,557	267,407	190,125	457,532	8,799
1971	52	1,027,462	714,478	1,741,940	33,499	268,278	187,928	456,206	8,773
1972	52	1,307,881	613,430	1,921,311	36,948	272,649	135,470	408,119	7,848
1973	52	1,142,216	605,105	1,747,321	33,602	257,574	159,049	416,623	8,012
1974	52	937,932	596,187	1,534,119	29,502	232,373	170,193	402,566	7,742
1975	52	735,532	532,164	1,267,696	24,379	194,319	186,386	380,705	7,321
1976	53	768,481	564,968	1,333,449	25,159	182,554	189,503	372,057	7,020
1977	52								
1976 1st quarter	13	209,955	148,844	358,799	27,600	44,978	48,785	93,763	7,213
2nd quarter	13	205,839	143,677	349,516	26,886	46,510	51,249	97,759	7,520
3rd quarter	13	145,427	108,233	253,660	19,512	36,730	39,225	75,955	5,843
4th quarter	14	207,260	164,214	371,474	26,534	54,336	50,244	104,580	7,470
1977 1st quarter	13	181,025	137,426	318,451	24,496	51,614	55,128	106,742	8,211
2nd quarter	13								
3rd quarter	13								
4th quarter	13								
1976 January	4	56,966	39,432	96,398	24,100	12,051	13,971	26,022	6,506
February	4	68,878	50,913	119,791	29,948	14,468	15,829	30,297	7,574
March	5	84,111	58,499	142,610	28,522	18,459	18,985	37,444	7,489
April	4	54,445	38,281	92,726	23,182	13,209	14,019	27,228	6,807
May	4	76,074	51,169	127,243	31,811	16,122	18,245	34,367	8,592
June	5	75,320	54,227	129,547	25,909	17,179	18,985	36,164	7,233
July	4	56,334	34,350	90,684	22,671	12,389	13,444	25,833	6,458
August	4	32,971	31,801	64,772	16,193	8,871	9,219	18,090	4,523
September	5	56,122	42,082	98,204	19,641	15,470	16,562	32,032	6,406
October	5	82,077	59,240	141,317	28,263	19,947	19,320	39,267	7,853
November	4	67,512	52,863	120,375	30,094	17,922	15,706	33,628	8,407
December	5	57,671	52,111	109,782	21,956	16,467	15,218	31,685	6,337
1977 January	4	66,199	48,377	114,576	28,644	16,852	16,536	33,388	8,347
February	4	49,647	41,778	91,425	22,856	15,302	17,049	32,351	8,088
March	5	65,179	47,271	112,450	22,490	19,460	21,543	41,003	8,201
April	4	64,603	41,855	106,458	26,615	13,277	14,974	28,251	7,063

Note: The number of vehicles produced for export shown in these tables differs from the number exported (which is shown in the Overseas Trade Statistics) because of differences in timing and coverage.

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 27 May 1977.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Woodland Harvest	BR/E 39163/29/5/82	26	24 May	Hemdale International Films Ltd	British Railways Board Films Service, London
Cruisin'	BR/E 39169/29/5/82	29	27 May	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Rellim Clark Associates, London
Movietone News 2503	BR/E 38864/29/5/82	8	27 May	British Movietonews Ltd	British Movietonews Ltd
			COMMUNITY		
Le Gang	EC 39157/29/5/82	104	23 May	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd	Adel Productions, Paris and Mondial Te.Fi., Rome
Erotic Eva	EC 39164/29/5/82	95	26 May	Fine Films Ltd	Matra Cinematografica, Rome
One-Eyed Men Are Kings	EC 39165/29/5/82	15	26 May	Contemporary Films Ltd	CAPAC, Paris
Heart Of Glass	EC 39166/29/5/82	94	26 May	Contemporary Films Ltd	Werner Herzog Filmproduktion, Munich
			FOREIGN		
Bound For Glory	F 39158	148	23 May	United Artists Corporation Ltd	RFB Enterprises Inc and HL Productions Inc, California
Mr Klein	F 39159	124	24 May	Gala Film Distributors Ltd	Lira Films, Paris
Divine Obsession	F 39160	55	24 May	Oppidan (UK) Ltd	Troma Inc., New York
The Speed Sailors	F 39161	28	24 May	United Artists Corporation Ltd	Viscom Sales Ltd, London
Twilights Last Gleaming	F 39162	122	24 May	Hemdale International Films Ltd	Lorimar Productions Inc, New York
End Of The Game	F 39167	28	26 May	Contemporary Films Ltd	Opus Films, New York
Night Life	F 39168	12	26 May	Contemporary Films Ltd	Opus Films, New York

AMENDMENT TO THE REGISTER

The title of the film 'King, Queen, Knave', EC 37126/18/11/78, registered on 15 November 1973, has been amended to 'Sex, Love and Murder' and the playing time to 81 minutes.

NOTE

The registration number of 'Task Group Three', registered on 27 April 1977, should have read BR/E 39126/1/5/82.

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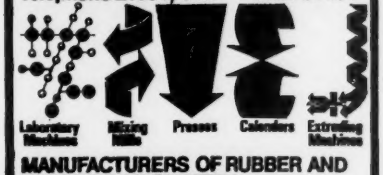

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